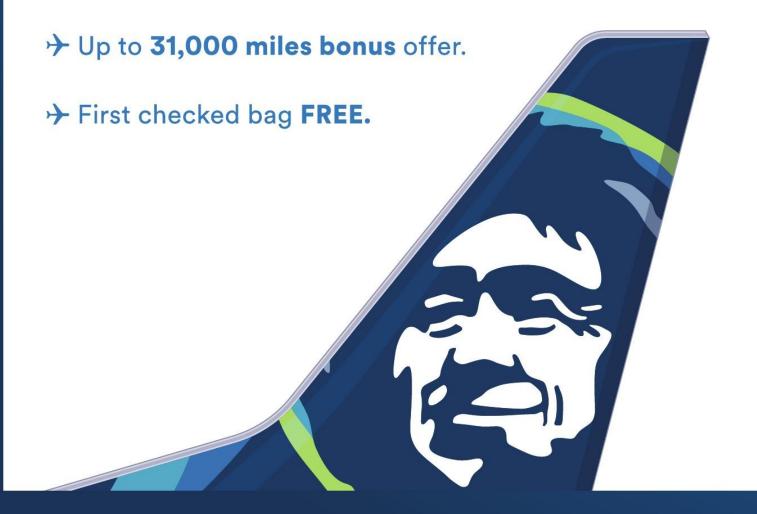


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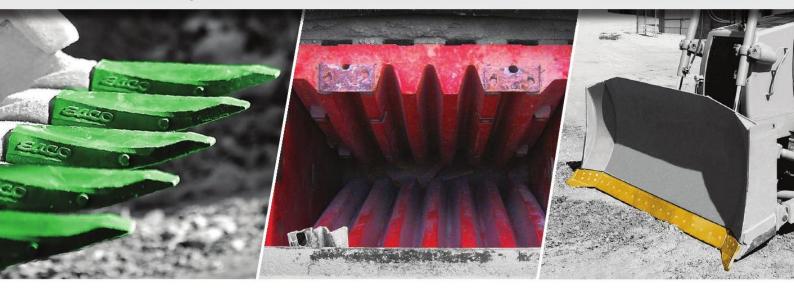
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The second thing you should know is that if you are a vacation homeowner, Vacasa guarantees you'll make more money with them. They utilize industry-leading marketing strategies to help every guest find the perfect place to stay and their machine-learning-driven pricing technology adjusts rental rates in real time so that homeowners never leave money on the table.

"We hired Vacasa to manage our first vacation home and we couldn't be happier," says Roz Henderson, a Los Angeles-based teacher who recently decided to put her Encinitas home on the rental market. "Vacasa has taken care of everything for us, from the required city permits to educating us about the entire vacation



rental process. Our local team has been a huge help as well, always available when we need them. We feel so well taken care of."

Built on trust

Founded in 2009, Vacasa built a foundation of trust with its customers and quickly began growing its portfolio of vacation homes. Today, the company employs a wide range of staff from local housekeepers to marketers and software engineers.

Driven by technological advancements, the short-term accommodations sector is growing at twice the rate of the entire U.S. travel industry. For vacation rental homeowners, the process of securing consistent bookings and managing rates has become more complex, increasing demand for a simple, all-in-one property management solution. This is what Vacasa does best.

Full-service solution

Homeowners who don't want their vacation homes to be their full-time jobs are increasingly turning to full-service property managers such as Vacasa, which employs local teams and manages everything from bookings and cleanings to navigating local permits and regulations. "Our home has never looked better and is always ready for the next guest," says Henderson. "We've received so many five-star reviews from satisfied travelers."

Ready for a modern property manager to take your vacation home to the next level? Contact Vacasa today at 888.297.6945 or visit us online at www.vacasa.com/beyond.



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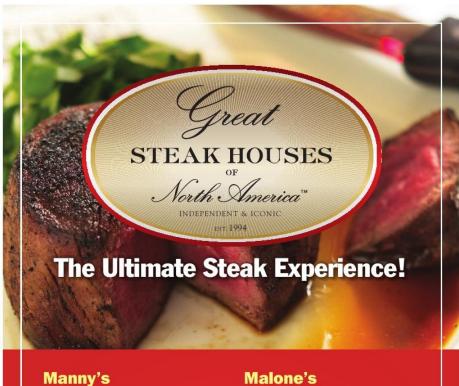
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ON THE COVER

Baily Lighthouse at sunrise, near Dublin, Ireland.

Photo by Marco Bottigelli / Getty Images.



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10 WEEKS TO YOUR BEST YOU!

There was never any one moment where I intentionally stopped trying to be healthy. I just got to a point where I felt out of shape and thought, "That's it. I guess I feel old now." But I wanted to have more energy and be a better example to my young daughter. The few times I tried to do something on my own, it either didn't work or I ended up injured.

My Best 10 offered a comprehensive approach to health, not just a diet or exercise program. Starting with a baseline set of tests was a great way to understand where I was and see how much progress I made over time. I'd never in my adult life been able to purposefully lose weight (other than after pregnancy), so losing 10 pounds felt like it would be a miracle! But, at the start of the program, both the doctor and the Registered Dietitian thought I should set a goal of losing 20 pounds. I thought they were crazy but I'd give it a try

I ended up not only hitting the weight loss goal of losing 20 pounds in 10 weeks, but I lost another 10 pounds on top of that – and I've kept it off ever since!

My Registered Dietitian, Erika, was amazing. She designed the meal plan according to what would work best for me. I also learned a lot about healthy eating and how to budget my calories, which has really helped me maintain the weight loss. Tracking what I eat has been key and, if I want to indulge a little, I know how to balance it out.

Within three days of being on the meal plan, it felt like I was having an out-of-body experience. All of my bloating and fatigue disappeared. I also couldn't believe what a big difference it made to be more hydrated. I thought I'd been doing a decent job of drinking water before the program, but when I made a specific point to always be drinking water or getting myself more water, I noticed a huge change. I wasn't hungry as often and my complexion instantly perked up.

I was also really happy to work with my trainer, Maddie. I have scoliosis, which makes my back very susceptible to injury. I was worried that I'd never be able to really push myself. Maddie was always checking in with me and making adjustments as needed. The exercises became progressively more difficult and, before I knew it, I was exercising harder than I had in a long time. I continue to train with her even after the program. Occasionally, she'll ask me to do an exercise that sounds totally beyond what I think I can do, but then I give it a try and am amazed to see what I'm capable of.

I'm truly in the best shape of my life, and I feel great!

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WELCOME[®]





Brad Tilden, Chief Executive Officer

DISCOVER NEW LANDS WITH ALASKA GLOBAL PARTNERS

warm welcome to our guests who have joined us from Virgin America. This month we are proud to share our Alaska Beyond Magazine aboard our Airbus aircraft for the first time. And since those of us on the West Coast are well-known for our wanderlust, let's talk about Alaska's Global Partners.

The famous French author André Gide once wrote, "One does not discover new lands without consenting to lose sight of the shore for a very long time." Living in Melbourne, Australia, in my early professional years, my family and I did indeed lose sight of the shore. It was a thrilling experience, one that expanded my horizons and introduced me to a new culture and to some incredible people.

In the decades since, accessible air travel has made it possible to discover new lands—to broaden our horizons—for a work trip or for a weekend. Globally competitive cities, such as Alaska's West Coast hubs—Seattle, Portland, San Francisco, LAX, San Diego and Anchorage—make connections to the rest of the world essential. And while technology has made our world seem small, there's nothing like the experience

of traveling-in person-abroad.

Last month, I was in Sydney for a meeting of the International Air Transport Association. Strolling along Darling Harbour, I was amazed at how international the city had become. I heard a lot of different languages and, honestly, not that many Aussie accents!

Two things struck me on that visit. One, how fortunate we are at Alaska Airlines to work with some of the best airlines in the world as part of Alaska Global Partners. These 15 remarkable airlines hail from England, Australia, Dubai, Japan, Hong Kong, Ireland, Singapore and beyond—and they offer experiences that showcase local customs, food and culture as soon as you step on board. You can watch a Japanese anime film and sip craft sake on Japan Airlines, or enjoy traditional afternoon tea service on British Airways. And in first or business class, you might even feel like you're at a spa, as one guest shared on social media after flying Cathay Pacific using Alaska Airlines Mileage Plan miles.

I was also reminded, as I visited the Qantas team at their home offices, how important people are in business. While high-tech gadgets offer a portal for connecting at a distance, there's nothing like shaking

>> WELCOME

someone's hand and sitting down to work together on how we can serve you, our guests, even better.

That's why we're committed to connecting you not just locally and nationally—but globally. As a member of Alaska's Mileage Plan, you can earn and redeem miles traveling to more than 900 destinations worldwide, which include destinations we serve on our 1,350 daily flights and more than 50 daily international departures from the West Coast by our Global Partners.

These miles are good for redeeming award tickets, and they count toward Mileage Plan

elite status. And unlike in some other programs, your miles are based on miles flown, not on how much you spend on your ticket. So you don't get penalized for finding a great fare.

Our newest partner, Aer Lingus, just started nonstop service between Seattle and Dublin, offering hassle-free travel into Europe, with the added benefit of pre-clearance for U.S. customs and immigration in Dublin on your way back to the States.

You can also reach Asia from all of our West Coast hubs, with Japan Airlines, Cathay Pacific, Hainan Airlines and Singapore Airlines. Check

out more details in this issue in the articles devoted to Mileage Plan and our Global Partners starting on page 71.

Alaska and our Alaska Global Partners share a pioneering spirit and a desire to be different and remarkable for our guests, with teams of fantastic people committed to truly great service. So the next time you want to get away and lose sight of the shore ... think of Alaska Airlines.

Thank you for flying with us, especially to those of you who came to us from Virgin America. We're happy to have you onboard. ⊀

>> BIENVENIDO

DESCUBRE NUEVAS TIERRAS CON LAS **AEROLÍNEAS GLOBALES ASOCIADAS DE ALASKA**



Brad Tilden. Jefe Ejecutivo

>>> Una calurosa bienvenida a nuestros clientes de Virgin America que se han unido a nosotros. Este mes estamos orgullosos de compartir, por primera vez, nuestra revista Alaska Beyond a bordo de nuestros aviónes Airbus. Y como aquellos de nosotros en la Costa Oeste somos bien conocidos por nuestra pasión por los viajes, hablemos de las aerolíneas globales asociadas de Alaska.

El famoso autor francés André Gide escribió una vez: "Uno no descubre nuevas tierras sin consentir perder de vista la costa durante mucho tiempo". Al vivir en Melbourne, Australia, en mis primeros años como profesional, mi familia y yo perdimos de vista la costa. Fue una experiencia emocionante, que amplió mis horizontes, y me introdujo a una nueva cultura y a algunas personas increíbles.

En las décadas posteriores, los viajes aéreos accesibles han hecho posible descubrir nuevas tierras (ampliar nuestros horizontes) en un viaje de trabajo o en un fin de semana. Las ciudades globalmente competitivas, como los centros de la Costa Oeste, hacen que las conexiones con el resto del mundo sean esenciales. Y aunque la tecnología ha hecho que nuestro mundo parezca pequeño, no hay nada como la experiencia de viajar al extranjero en persona.

El mes pasado regresé a Sidney, Australia para una reunión de la Asociación de Transporte Aéreo Internacional (International Air Transport Association). Paseando por el Puerto Darling, me quedé sorprendido de lo internacional que la ciudad se había convertido. Escuché muchos idiomas diferentes y sinceramente, ino tantos acentos australianos!

Dos cosas me impresionaron en esa visita. Primero, cuán afortunados somos en Alaska Airlines de trabajar con algunas de las mejores aerolíneas del mundo como parte de los Socios Globales de Alaska. Estas 15 excepcionales aerolíneas provienen de lugares como Inglaterra, Australia, Dubai, Japón, Hong Kong, Irlanda, Singapur y más allá, y ofrecen experiencias que muestran sus costumbres locales, su comida y su cultura al momento de abordar. Pueden ver una película animada japonesa y disfrutar del sake artesanal en Japan Airlines, o disfrutar del servicio tradicional de té por la tarde en British Airways. Y en primera clase o en la clase ejecutiva, incluso pueden sentir que están en el spa, tal como un pasajero compartió en las redes sociales después de volar con Cathay Pacific utilizando las millas de Alaska Airlines.

También me recordó, una vez más, lo importante que es la gente para los negocios cuando visité el equipo de Qantas en sus oficinas centrales. Si bien los dispositivos de alta tecnología ofrecen un portal para conectarse a distancia, no hay nada mejor que estrechar la mano de alguien y trabajar juntos en la forma en que podemos servir, aún mejor, a nuestros pasajeros.

Es por eso que estamos comprometidos a conectarlos no solo a nivel local y nacional, sino a nivel mundial. Como miembro del Mileage Plan de Alaska, puede acumular y canjear millas en viajes a más de 900 destinos en todo el mundo, incluyendo los destinos que servimos en nuestros 1350 vuelos diarios y más de 50 salidas diarias internacionales de la costa oeste por parte de los Socios Globales de Alaska.

Estas millas son válidas para canjear boletos de premio y cuentan para la categoría élite del Mileage Plan. A diferencia de otros programas, sus millas se basan en millas, no en cuánto gasta en su boleto. De manera que no serán penalizados por encontrar una buena tarifa.

Nuestro socio más reciente, Aer Lingus, inicio un nuevo servicio sin escalas desde Seattle a Dublín, ofreciendo viajes sin complicaciones a Europa, con el beneficio adicional de la autorización previa para aduanas e inmigraciones de los Estados Unidos en Dublín en su regreso a los Estados Unidos. También pueden llegar a Asia desde todos nuestros centros de la Costa Oeste con Japan Airlines, Cathay Pacific, Hainan Airlines y Singapore Airlines. Consulte más detalles en este número en los artículos dedicados a Mileage Plan y a nuestros Socios Globales a partir de la página 71.

Alaska y nuestros Socios Globales comparten un espíritu pionero y un deseo de ser diferentes y únicas para nuestros pasajeros, con la atención de personas fantásticas comprometidas con un servicio verdaderamente excelente. Entonces, la próxima vez que deseen alejarse y perder de vista la costa ... piensen en Alaska Airlines.

Gracias por volar con nosotros, especialmente a aquellos de ustedes que vinieron a nosotros de Virgin America. Es un placer tenerlos a bordo. 🛪

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IN THE KNOW,

WHAT'S NEW: MORE TO LOVE IN TRAVEL AMENITIES

>> How does brioche French toast

with rhubarb-thyme compote, real maple syrup and scrambled eggs sound for breakfast?

Or, if it's dinnertime, perhaps some miso ginger beef with mesclun mix, tomatoes, cucumbers, radishes and ginger vinaigrette?

These are just two of the dishes that have rolled out on Alaska's First Class summer menu, a selection that focuses on simplicity, fresh ingredients and generous portions.

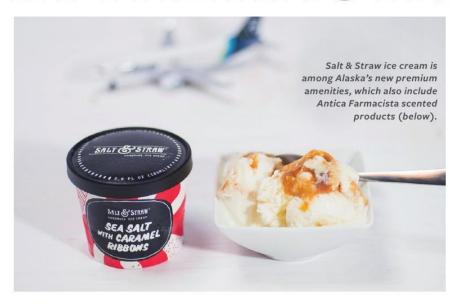
The new food options are part of a broader expansion of premium travel amenities on Alaska flights and across guests' travel-day experiences—from check-ins to arrivals at destinations. Also included in the effort to give guests more to love is the introduction of custom-fragrance soaps and lotions being rolled out in Alaska Lounges this summer.

Alaska is serving the new menu options on any flight with a First Class cabin—on Boeing, Airbus and Embraer aircraft. The menus will change every three months and will incorporate fresh, in-season produce such as berries, arugula and leeks—supporting a trend of healthier and more sustainable foods that many guests have adopted.

"Our guests have told us they want more fresh food, larger quantities and a wider variety of options," says Todd Traynor-Corey, Alaska's food and beverage director. "With a focus on local and healthy food with complex flavors, to pair with thoughtful beer and wine choices, the menu has a distinctive West Coast vibe."

The First Class summer menu, which will be available on flights through September 15, incorporates new snack baskets to supplement some First Class meals—an option that guests and flight attendants had been requesting.

One of the most exciting changes for the summer menu has been the addition of a wildly popular ice cream from Salt & Straw, a Portland company that has a dedicated following among ice cream lovers. After learning how flying can



dramatically alter taste, Salt & Straw's head ice cream maker, Tyler Malek, hand-selected the best flavors to enjoy at 35,000 feet. The family-run business launched entirely new single-serve packaging specifically for Alaska, its exclusive airline partner. The ice cream is being served as a dessert on transcontinental and Hawai'i flights.

Alaska Airlines will continue to source products from local West Coast companies where possible. These companies include Roons, a bakery in Portland specializing in macaroons, and Sweet Lady Jane, a bakery in Los Angeles. Cucina Fresca, based in

Seattle, will supply ravioli and a Bolognese sauce. Alaska also looks to strengthen existing partnerships with companies such as Seattle Chocolates, by continuing to offer a

prearrival truffle with many meals. The menu was refined with the help of a focus group that included flight attendants and guests.

To develop the new soaps and lotions that are becoming available in Alaska Lounges, the airline worked with the Seattle company Antica

Farmacista. The company, which has

also created customized scents for

ers, drew inspiration from
the West Coast to develop a
fragrance for Alaska. The
result, Ocean Citron, creates a nuanced olfactory
experience that hints at the
fresh scent of the Pacific

Ocean, along with hints of California citrus, Northwest cedar and numerous other fragrance notes.

SAMPLE SUMMER-MENU ITEMS NOW IN FIRST CLASS

Snack Basket: A mix of sweet and salty items, including bananas, dark chocolate, Kind bars, almonds, jerky and popcorn chips.

Brie and Arugula Omelet: Omelet stuffed with sauteed leeks, brie and arugula. Served with roasted fingerling potato slices, grilled asparagus, artichoke hearts, applewood bacon. Sweet Pea and Tarragon Ravioli: Ravioli filled with sweet green pea and tarragon puree. Served with grilled scallions, roasted tomatoes, grilled yellow squash and portobello mushrooms, and a parsley cream sauce. Garnished with shaved Parmesan cheese.





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PEOPLE BEHIND THE SPIRIT

SCHEDULED FOR SUCCESS

Pilot Crew Scheduler Marian Hackl is a Legend of Customer Service

>> Marian Hackl likes a challenge. Because of this, she is well-suited to her job handling the complex logistics and legalities of pilot crew scheduling-making sure that flights have pilots and rescheduling crews as needs arise. For flights to stay on time, she often has to get creative and adjust multiple schedules to line up flight crews.

"I like to put puzzles together," Hackl says. "Being resourceful is just part of my job."

Hackl, who grew up mostly in the Seattle area, says it was her dream to work for Alaska: "I didn't apply anywhere else," she says. "It's local and has a great reputation."

Hackl began her Alaska career 34 years ago, in the Reservations department. After 11 months there, she became a Customer Service Associate, then a lead CSA. She enjoyed the scheduling aspect of that job and moved to Pilot Crew Scheduling in 1994.

A quiet, calm person by nature, Hackl is recognized as a key player by co-workers, who admire her poise under pressure.

"Marian is the type of person who is not satisfied with any solution, but wants to find the best solution," says Director of Pilot Scheduling Jim Wellman. "She's earned the respect of her team, co-workers and crew members because of who she is and how she approaches her job."

Hackl's teammate Darcie Gibson says, "When she's not here, I try to think, 'What would Marian do?' And it's hard to do, because she's just so good at her work."

For her part, Hackl is humble about what she does and says she is just part of a large, behind-the-scenes team. She considers it a good day when she is "able to put the puzzle together and help passengers and crews get where they need to go, on time," she says. "It makes everybody's day easier. So I do all I can."

-Ren Raker



QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

What do you like most about your job? I look forward to coming to work because it's exciting. There isn't anything I dislike.

What is a typical day like for you?

There is no real typical day. I normally start my day at 3:45 A.M.—I'm a morning person! Beyond that, it's always different. Every day, we're faced with different situations, and we have to deal with them.

What was a memorable day from work? The most shocking day recently was when

they delivered the news to me that I was a Legend. I wasn't expecting it at all.

Where do you like to travel?

I used to travel more—I went to Seoul, Hong Kong, Canada and Mexico. But since I adopted dogs, I don't like to leave them. I'm very sensitive to their needs right now.

What else should people know?

I like to be outside in nature. And I love animals. I like to do my small part and help animals in need when I can.

KUDOS FROM MARIAN'S CO-WORKERS

"Watching Marian work is like watching a master play chess. She is always thinking about how fixing one scheduling problem will affect other crew scheduling issues."

> -John H., Vice President, Flight Operations, Horizon Air, Seattle

"I'm most impressed with how Marian approaches her job. She's a quiet person who never seems to get flustered, no matter how tough the task." -Jim W., Director, Pilot Scheduling, Seattle

"She's very creative. She thinks outside the box and can solve a problem even if you didn't know you had one." — Charles W., Director, System Operations, Seattle

"Marian's job knowledge, her good judgment, her caring nature, and her sense of responsibility to self and others stand out as some of her strongest attributes."

> —Bennie J., Managing Director, Flight Operations Planning and Resource Management, Seattle



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ALASKA AND PEARL JAM TEAM UP TO HELP THE HOMELESS

The airline joins with the band to help neighbors in their time of need

By Jacob Uitti

>> Pearl Jam is coming home.

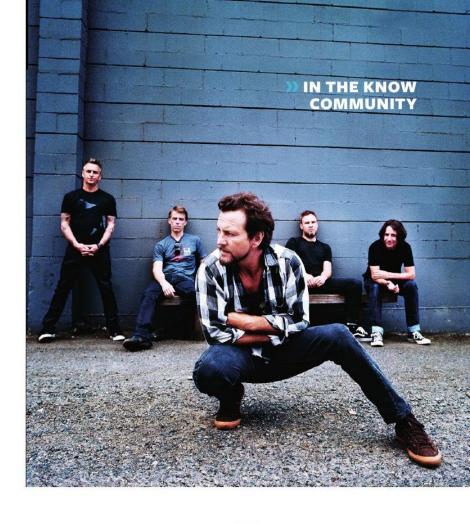
For the first time in five years, the Seattle Rock & Roll Hall of Fame band is playing in its hometown-two sold-out concerts at Safeco Field on August 8 and 10.

The band will use the occasion to help raise millions of dollars for, and awareness of, the increasing problem of homelessness in the Emerald City. The greater Seattle area has more than 12,000 homeless people, which ranks as the nation's sixth most homeless per 10,000 residents. "It's something the city is clearly struggling with," says Pearl Jam guitarist and co-founder Stone Gossard. "And if we can play a role in spotlighting the issue or bringing more resources to it, it's something we all feel is very important."

While homelessness has been a local issue for many years, Gossard says the band members have seen a surge recently. They believe the uptick in homelessness is due, in part, to rising costs of living and an influx of new residents to the area.

"It's clearly gotten worse," Gossard says. "There's no question about it. One of the biggest factors in why this crisis is growing is due to the cost of housing. Seattle is a very successful city right now. The downside of that success is that the cost of living is going way up. People who were just getting by on a certain amount per month for both food and rent now aren't able to keep up."

An estimated 100,000 people are expected to attend the two concerts, which have been named "The Home Shows." And while Gossard acknowledges that he and his fellow band members don't have the answers to the challenges of homelessness, they want to bring people together to help find the solutions.



"What we hope to do is use the concerts as a galvanizing force to highlight groups that are already doing amazing work," Gossard says. "We hope to put some pressure on our city, county and state officials to coordinate as much as they possibly can. I hope this effort can continue long after these shows."

Pearl Jam has reached its goal of raising \$10 million through proceeds from the concert tickets, additional donations and corporate support to help fund local organizations that are working to end homelessness. Alaska and its employees are among the corporate supporters raising money to help find solutions.

Alaska is helping to support Pearl Jam's effort by making an additional donation to programs such as Plymouth Housing Group, which supplies permanent housing for the homeless, and Mary's Place, a provider of emergency shelter for families experiencing homelessness. Last year, Alaska stepped up to support Mary's Place and their "No Child Sleeps Outside" campaign, which helped about

Pearl Jam is dedicating its two sold-out shows at Seattle's Safeco Field to the local homeless problem and is asking fans to take action, learn about the issue and then share information with others.

500 family members find shelter.

Diana Birkett Rakow, Alaska's vice president for external relations, says that as West Coast communities such as Seattle and the San Francisco Bay Area continue to grow and thrive, Alaska wants to help make sure that the resulting prosperity is inclusive. One place to start is with homelessness and housing.

"This is an important issue to our guests and employees," Birkett Rakow says. "We're proud to support some of the remarkable local organizations that are helping families, youth and adults find stable shelter and housing. We know there's still much more to do, and we want to join hands with other local businesses to help make a difference."



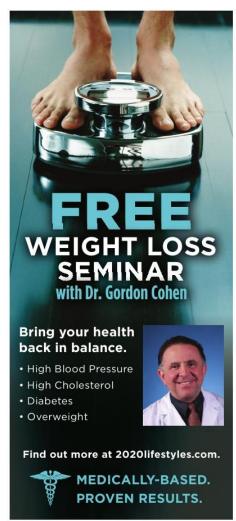
JOIN PEARL JAM IN FIGHTING HOMELESSNESS. Volunteer, donate to the cause and learn about the problem. Visit pearljam.com/thehomeshows for information.



BARBARA LOST 58 POUNDS

After going through 20/20 LifeStyles, I ran my first 5K! This was a goal that I had talked about for years. I plan to continue to build my endurance and improve on my time, so I've got more 5Ks in my future.

Of course, there's the weight loss as well. However, I really didn't pay attention to the scale throughout the program. In fact, I did "blind" weigh-ins, not looking at the scale when my weight was being measured. For me, it wasn't about a number. It was about improving my health and how I feel. And I couldn't feel better!





I knew that I needed to improve my health. Over the years, my weight had continued to creep up but, more worrisome, my cholesterol levels began tipping from normal to high. I had a lack of energy and was generally unhappy with how I was feeling.

20/20 LifeStyles is not about "do's" and "don'ts." It's about how I want to live in order to continue feeling as great as I feel now.

My biggest learning curve? Nutrition. The knowledge I gained from my Registered Dietitian was invaluable and helped me change how I view food. Learning about how my body processes food and how sugar affects how I feel throughout the day was eye opening. I no longer view food as "good" or "bad." I no longer say I can't eat something. Rather, I say "I choose not to" eat it. That has been revolutionary.

Before 20/20 LifeStyles you would find me on the couch all the time, staring at an iPad or watching TV. My energy level was so low that I'd crash at 4 p.m. I felt blue, was self-critical, and didn't like the way I looked. Going out with friends took a conscious effort instead of being natural and joyful. Since my success with the program, my energy level has increased, I'm more optimistic, my self-talk is positive, and I'm more social.

My entire family has been extremely encouraging. One thing I do every day is to Snapchat my family while on the treadmill. It's a way of holding myself accountable. In the beginning, I purposely didn't include them because I felt that I needed to get this figured out for myself first. I continued to cook for them as always while I followed the recommendations made by my registered dietitian and exercised on my own. They soon began commenting that the food I was eating looked good and wanted some as well. Exercise also became a regular part of our time together. Life is definitely more enjoyable when we're all being active together.

>> IN THE KNOW **CREW TIPS**

TRAVELING THE WORLD

>> Whether it's for work or vacation,

Alaska Airlines employees know how to travel. This month, we asked company globetrotters for their best tips on traveling internationally. They weighed in on how to pack, how to deal with time zone changes and more. Here are some of their suggestions.

- "Learn some key phrases. Although English will get you by in most countries, learning how to greet someone or order at a restaurant in the native language will not only help break the ice, but will also be a sign of respect that you are embracing the culture." -Richard G., Ground Instructor, Portland
- "Always grab a map when traveling in a different country. If the locals don't speak English, you can often just point to where you are going on the map, and they will point you in the right direction." - Krista B., Reservations Sales Agent, Boise
- "Be a minimalist and pack light! My partner and I take several international trips a year, usually for one or two weeks each. He takes only a 30-liter backpack, and I take a weekender duffel bag and a small messenger bag. We use packing cubes and launder our clothes on the go." —Christopher K., Flight Attendant, Seattle
- "U.S. citizens can get a passport card. It's only valid for entry to the United States and a few other countries, but elsewhere it's still much easier to lock up your regular (bulky) passport book in the hotel safe and carry just the card as your ID." - James H., Senior Software Quality Assurance Engineer, Seattle
- "Fanny pack! It may not be the most fashionable thing, but it can carry my passport and wallet in a safe spot while I'm traveling internationally. In crowded areas, I just wear it under my shirt or sweater, so I don't need to worry



about anything getting taken." -Amanda H., Lead Customer Service Agent, Austin

- "I like to use rome2rio.com to plan my routing. The website shows all the possible ways to get from point A to point B. It's especially helpful for the obscure locations that might not have an international hub close by." -Richard R., Ground Service Agent, Seattle
- "Google Translate is amazing, especially the camera translation feature, which is crazy fast. I've often been surprised at how some details or menu items get left off of translated menus. It's nice to be able to see everything by pointing a phone at the original menu." -Derrick C., Product Marketing Manager, Seattle
- "For dealing with time zone changes—no matter what time the flight lands, do what it takes to stay up until at least 8 p.m. local time. Usually by evening, I'm very tired and can sleep deeply. I wake up the next day refreshed." -Razel M., Sabre Support Specialist, Seattle
- "Pick one or two must-do things, and everything else becomes icing on the cake. We

recently went to New Zealand (highly recommend), and we all checked off our one must-do item-from the Hobbiton movie set to glowworm cave tubing to bungee jumping-and we all left happy." - Julie G., Dispatcher, Seattle

GLOBAL DESTINATION IDEAS

- "My boyfriend and I went to Copenhagen, Denmark, in May. We found it absolutely enchanting. From fairy-tale rooflines to trendsetting modern-design features, the city's aesthetics are eye candy for architecture or design enthusiasts." —Sarah B., First Officer, Portland
- "I travel every year to the Philippines. That's where I was born and raised, and I love it!" -Carl O., Concierge, Portland
- "My favorite international destination so far is Belgrade, Serbia. The culture in the heart of the city is awesome to experience. Everyone is super kind, and prices are very reasonable." - Anthony D., Customer Service Agent, San Jose
- "My favorite destination is **Dubai.** In March, I had a girls' trip with my friends for 10 days, and we had an amazing time!" -Sylvia N., Flight Attendant, Portland

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>> IN THE KNOW OUR PARTNERS





PROUDLY ICELANDIC

By Carolyn Bain

)) At a time when smaller airlines need to work hard to get travelers' attention, Icelandair stands out with unique country-of-origin branding, and a generous invitation for international travelers to visit the island nation.

Icelandair makes a point of celebrating the beauty of its home country, which has a tiny population of just 350,000. From the onboard music and movie selections to the inflight menu, the airline seeks to introduce passengers to the best of Iceland. The airline wants to educate travelers, too, in subtle and innovative ways. While inflight documentaries highlight the best places for visitors to experience, the headrests and napkins present enchanting translations of Icelandic phrases.

The galley caters to curious appetites, as well: Menu items include *skyr* (a delicious dairy product similar to yogurt), local candy and a traditional cake (made from oatmeal and rhubarb jam, called *hjónabandssæla*—intriguingly, the name means "wedded bliss"). The drinks menu features an on-trend "gin library" and also offers Icelandic beer, vodka and liqueurs.

In addition, Icelandair has a clever way of distinguishing its fleet. Each aircraft is named after a local volcano, glacier or natural wonder, and some airplanes feature livery that makes flying an Instagram-worthy adventure.

Vatnajökull, for instance, is named after Europe's largest glacier, and the plane's frostylooking exterior was hand-painted in 2017 as part of Icelandair's 80th anniversary. Dressed in the stunning colors of a winter landscape is Hekla Aurora, adorned with images of the aurora borealis, or northern lights.

Design themes are carried inside the aircraft with mood-setting LED lighting: Onboard *Hekla Aurora*, you feel as if you're watching the northern lights dance across the sky.

The latest addition to the Icelandair fleet celebrates the 100th anniversary of Iceland's sovereignty, as well as the debut of the men's national soccer team in the FIFA World Cup—you may know the team for its mighty Viking clap. One of Icelandair's new Boeing 757s was named *Thingvellir*, after a national park that's a UNESCO World Heritage site. It is painted with

Dicelandair's Thingvellir aircraft is painted in the bold colors of the Icelandic flag; the Saga Lounge in Keflavík Airport invites Alaska's MVP Gold members to stop and relax.

the colors of the Icelandic flag: blue for the mountains, sea and sky; red for volcanic fire; and white for glacial ice. It's a patriotic salute to a big year for the country.

Icelandair is also working to develop Iceland as a vacation destination. From its hub at Keflavík Airport, the airline serves more than 20 North American cities—including Anchorage, Seattle, Portland and San Francisco. Icelandair also serves more than 20 European cities. The airline invites passengers flying across the Atlantic to enjoy a stopover stay in Iceland at no extra cost in airfare. After catching a glimpse of the waterfalls and otherworldly landscapes, many travelers start planning their return.

Icelandair is an Alaska global airline partner, and Alaska's Mileage Plan members earn miles on Icelandair flights. Mileage Plan members can also use miles to book a flight on Icelandair.

MVP Gold members can visit Icelandair's Saga Lounge at Keflavík Airport. Visit alaskaair.com/globalpartners to learn more.





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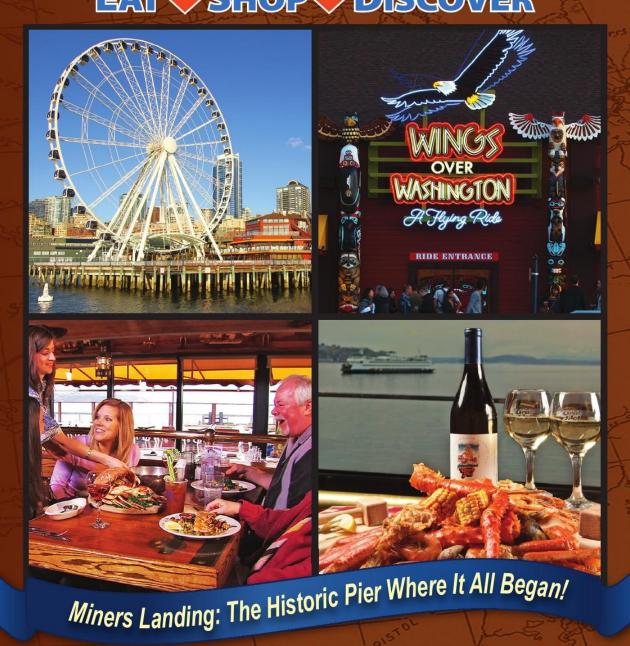






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>> IN THE KNOW FROM THE GALLEY

MAIN CABIN FRESH

)) Alaska Airlines is boarding new flavors for its Main Cabin service, focusing on meals for purchase that are straight from the West Coast food scene.

Alaska still serves its popular Fruit & Cheese Platter, and that option is now joined by items such as a West Coast Cobb Salad; the Charge Up Protein Platter featuring hummus, pita, Beecher's Flagship Cheddar and all-natural grilled chicken; and a Turkey Artichoke Baguette.

On an early flight? Start your day with Alaska's Fresh Start Protein Platter, which includes Greek yogurt, Beecher's cheese, fresh fruit and a cage-free hard-boiled egg.

Find the full menu in your seatback pocket. And if you like the Cobb Salad, try it at home with this recipe for Alaska's take on a satisfying salad.

West Coast Cobb Salad

This salad, with lemon-basil vinaigrette, is a wonderfully versatile summer dish. For the chicken, leftover roasted or rotisserie chicken works great, as does grilled boneless/skinless chicken breast. Serve smaller portions as an appetizer or light lunch, or double down for an easy cold entree with a glass of white wine.

LEMON-BASIL VINAIGRETTE MAKES 2½ CUPS

½ cup	Champagne vinegar
-------	-------------------

1/4 cup Fresh-squeezed lemon juice

½ cup Fresh basil leaves, chopped

1 tbsp Fresh garlic, peeled and chopped

Granulated sugar

1½ cups Olive oil

Kosher salt and freshly ground black pepper to taste

Combine vinegar, lemon juice, basil, garlic, and sugar in the jar of a blender, and process until smooth. With the blender running, add oil in a steady stream to emulsify. Adjust seasoning to taste with salt and pepper. Vinaigrette may be stored in the refrigerator for up to a week after making; shake well before use.

SALAD	
SERVES	8

4 oz	Baby spinach
4 oz	Mesclun greens
4	Cage-free eggs, hard-boiled
	and peeled
8	Red grape tomatoes
8	Yellow grape tomatoes
1	Small English cucumber, cut in

1/4-inch half-moons 6 strips Thick-cut applewood bacon,

cooked crisp Beecher's Flagship Cheddar, 4 oz

12 oz Grilled or roasted chicken breast,

Grilled asparagus, cut in 2 oz

2-inch pieces

Ripe avocado, peeled and diced

Combine spinach and mesclun, then divide among desired number of plates. Cut hardboiled eggs in quarters, placing 2 quarters on each plate. Place 1 red and 1 yellow grape tomato on each plate, and 3 to 4 slices of the cucumber. Chop bacon into rough 1/4-inch pieces and sprinkle evenly over the greens, then do the same with the crumbled cheddar. Distribute chicken evenly over salads, then asparagus and finally garnish with diced avocado. Serve with lemon-basil vinaigrette on the side. Salad may be made ahead of time and refrigerated for up to 8 hours before serving. ズ





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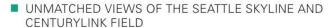




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ON POINT,



Judges assess entries at a past year's Jack Daniel's World Championship Invitational Barbecue competition.

AYE, THERE'S THE RUB

Bringing the heat and spices for cooking low and slow

By Tom Douglas



chance to be a judge at the Jack Daniel's World Championship Invitational Barbecue event in Lynchburg, Tennessee, about 75 miles southeast of Nashville. When I say "event," I mean "happening," "celebration" or "phenomenon," because it's hard to put into words the emotion one feels during this smoky weekend that is considered among the most prestigious barbecue contests in the world. The three days I spent in Lynchburg revealed many things to me, including what eating a real Southern "midday supper" means; what charcoal filtering does to a distilled spirit; and, most important, what "low and slow" can mean to whole hogs, pork butts, beef briskets or spare ribs, carefully tended till they reach perfection.

Before the main event, I started my day at Miss Mary Bobo's Boarding House, a Lynchburg institution, established in 1908. This classic Southern restaurant's midday supper is served family-style and begins at 11 A.M. sharp. I would suggest you skip eating breakfast beforehand, because the platters of glazed meatloaf, fried chicken, chicken and pastry, and country ham will tempt you beyond full. There are plenty of sides—fried okra; warm, buttered corn muffins; silky collard greens; corn grits; and whiskey-baked apples—as well as sweet tea and spring water. Yet, even after a warm welcome here, I was ready to get to the competition.

At the event, many of the almost 100 barbecue referees, including me, started out with a stroll through open grass fields dotted with 150 or so barbecue teams. They were getting ready to pull all-nighters to get their dishes ready for the judging on Saturday. The barbecue folks gathered around their fires and busily, diligently completed tasks assigned to them by their team captains. Most teams compete in all categories, so often there is a specialist for each protein. As we judges ambled and sipped the whiskey that had been provided to us, we chatted about theories of barbecue with teams willing to share knowledge of their mystical art with us.

)) ON POINT

FRESH TAKES

This prep time was also when whole hogs were being lovingly rubbed with spice blends, and choice briskets were being trimmed up for the 12- to 24-hour bathing in the woodsmoke of hickory, mesquite, cherry and/or pecan. Every team had its own suppositions about what mixture of wood, seasonings, cooking time/temperature and presentation plates was going to win them the \$10,000 grand prize and cherished trophy. Among the variables, a seasoning blend is one of the most crucialand it's typically a trade secret. Like a fingerprint, your spice blend is your barbecue identity (though blends are usually heavy on salt, brown sugar, dried chiles and cumin). To me, a good spice rub communes with a protein and doesn't overwhelm it like a sauce might.

The next day, we judges sat at tables as runners brought the 'cue from each of the anxious teams. In barbecue, I look for a tender bite with a crisp edge that for me achieves that

spiritual communion of seasonings and smoke. So that's what I sought as I judged.

Our judgments were nuanced, but a complex computing system made easy work of the score tabulation. After just a few short hours, each category winner was announced, and the grand champion was crowned based on scores in each discipline. The winning team had to have great scores in the whole-hog competition as well as for beef brisket, pork ribs and chicken. But overall, there were *many* spectacular entries that day. I'm not kidding when I say this weekend was a highlight of my career.

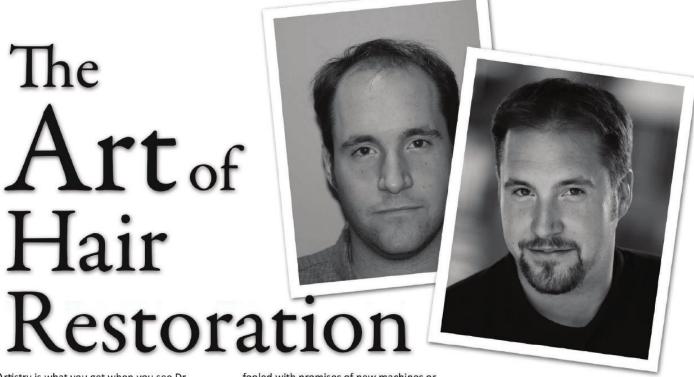
When I returned to Seattle, I was inspired to translate the spicy tradition for the Northwest, at Etta's, the seafood-focused restaurant I was opening in Seattle's Pike Place Market neighborhood. This approach became a hit. Ever since its opening in 1995, Etta's has been serving spice-rubbed, cold-smoked and grilled wild salmon. Our Rub with Love Salmon Rub is

now widely considered the top salmon rub in the nation. We have gone on to blend many additional combinations of spices for cooking beef, pork and other meats. These now sell in grocery stores and online, alongside our barbecue and teriyaki sauces. The folks at the Jack Daniel's event had no idea what an influence they would have on me all these years later.

Cooking with heat, smoke and spice is in many ways fundamental. Most chefs can probably pinpoint defining moments when you get back to basics, and it's just you, a fire, some seasonings and a ton of faith that the smoke you create in your firebox is going to turn a raw piece of meat into something magically tender, tasty and worthy of awards. Cheers!

James Beard Award-winning chef Tom Douglas owns 16 restaurants and eateries in Seattle. He partners with Alaska Airlines to bring his iconic flavors to Alaska guest experiences.





Artistry is what you get when you see Dr. Brian Goertz. As a board certified hair transplant surgeon and the founder of Hair Transplant Seattle, he takes great pride in his artistry of creating natural hairlines, achieving amazingly natural results and helping his patients regain the appearance they've been looking for.



Brian O. Goertz M.D. Founder of Hair Transplant Seattle

Patients meet directly with Dr. Goertz who takes a very holistic approach to caring for his patients. He counsels each individual on appropriate diet and supplements not only for their "hair health" but also for their general well-being and longevity.

Today there are still many misconceptions about hair transplantation, the results that can be achieved and the process by which the procedure is performed. With Dr. Goertz those misconceptions are gone; people will only know you've had a hair transplant if you tell them.

"It is important for today's patients to understand that the results that can be achieved can look completely natural and amazing when done properly," says Dr. Goertz. But patients should not be fooled with promises of new machines or instruments doing hair transplants. "The instruments are developed to aid the doctor," says Dr. Goertz. "Ultimately, natural results are achieved by the surgeon who has the surgical and aesthetic skill to create results that are completely natural." When a hair transplant can pass the scrutiny of a hair stylist, you know you have a great hair transplant. "Dr. Goertz has an eye for artistry in making it look natural, which is why I refer my clients to him," says David Cheung, master designer and owner of MARGIDAVID SALON in Seattle.

"My goal is to be sure that my work is completely natural and undetectable," says Dr. Goertz. "I recently had a physician come to me because a mutual patient finally revealed to him that he'd had a hair transplant. When that physician realized that he couldn't detect the transplanted hairs, he decided to come in for his hair transplant. It is a great compliment when a physician chooses me as the hair transplant surgeon for themselves and their patients."

Hair transplantation is not just for men. Many women also experience hair loss or are born with a high hairline that can be treated with hair transplantation. As difficult as it is for men to lose their hair, women often suffer in silence experiencing emotional pain. After all, society tells us that women are not supposed to lose their hair. Hair transplantation can make

a dramatic change in a woman's life. In some cases, hair transplantation is even appropriate for children with areas of hair loss caused by trauma, burns or radiation treatment. Hair transplantation can also be performed for eyebrows, sideburns, mustaches and heards.



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Someone you know has had a little work done

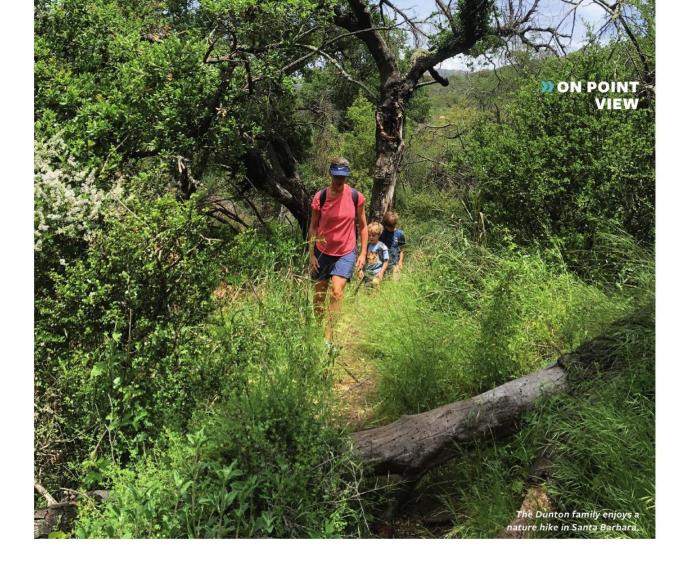
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TAKE A WALK

Insight and fun are often found afoot

By Rob Dunton



)) In the foothills above Old Mission Santa Barbara, up a narrow shaded road about 4 miles north of downtown, my wife and I with our two young boys arrive at the trailhead for Rattlesnake Canyon. I've heard the area was named for its sinuous shape and not for any particular abundance of rattlers. We grab a daypack full of snacks, sandwiches and water from our car and head for the trail.

A gentle creek rambles along, feeding the trees and vegetation that make the ravine so lush before the creek dries up in late summer. We step on large river stones to cross the flowing water and are greeted by a well-trodden path on the other side. I smell sage and fennel, hear running water and rustling leaves, and feel trail dust and a cool breeze on my skin. Sycamore, alder and California live oak shade the chaparral and other flora that line the trail. Both our boys, having participated in outdoor wilderness programs since

the age of 3, spot clumps of poison oak before we do.

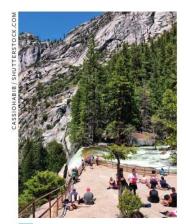
The boys also know the names of edible plants such as chickweed, sour grass, miner's lettuce and elderberry. As a relatively dependable source of water, this creek has been important to the area for centuries. The Chumash used it well before Spanish missionaries arrived in the late 1700s, and a dam and simple aqueduct were built in the early 1800s to direct water toward the burgeoning town, though only remnants of these structures remain.

I'm no mountain man, but I always enjoy a good walk: urban, suburban, coastal or mountainous. Walking is the ideal pace to absorb the world. My senses tend to be "on," actively taking note of my environment. Each time I exit the cocoon of my car and use my feet for locomotion, nature repays the effort tenfold.

With its renowned weather, California is a great

>> ON POINT

VIEW



Visitors above Vernal Fall in Yosemite National Park.

place to make walking a year-round pastime. Residents and visitors stroll neighborhoods, beaches and parks around the state. One of my favorite in-city walks is San Diego's Balboa Park. I like to enter the park on foot across the towering Cabrillo Bridge (with great views of downtown at night), pass the iconic California Tower and come to the Plaza de Panama, a large public space with a restful fountain, in the heart of the park. I enjoy people-watching in the plaza, and I can also explore the park's myriad museums and gardens, and a concert venue with an outdoor pipe organ. At the north end of Balboa Park lies the San Diego Zoo, where walking can include talking to the animals

For a nature-based walk outside an urban area, I think one of the most memorable locations is Yosemite Valley. With an early start, or hiking on an offseason day, I find that nothing beats strolling along the shores of the Merced River, taking in the soaring valley walls and Half Dome, followed by a day hike to Vernal and Nevada falls. At about 6 miles roundtrip,

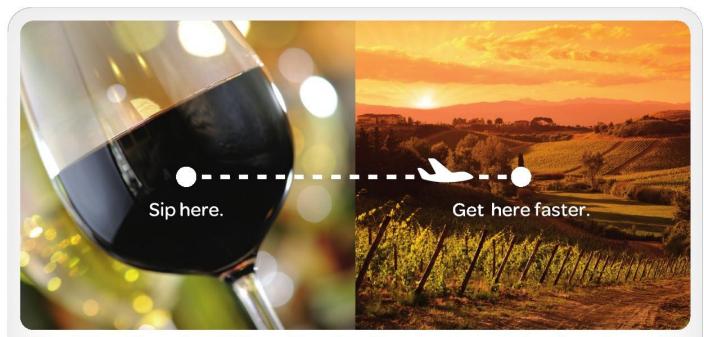
the hike to the falls—first Vernal, then continuing on to Nevada—provides an immersive experience in the waterfall wonder that is Yosemite.

Back at comparatively modest Rattlesnake Canyon, our family eats lunch in the shade of a weathered oak, and resumes our trek up the trail. At an inviting spot, the boys spend an hour laughing and playing in mud they've discovered along the creek's edge. They rinse off with a brisk dip in the water, then we head back down the trail. Crows caw overhead, bees buzz as they work their pollination magic, and the sound of the creek is ever present.

We had no plan or destination—we've taken half a day and barely covered 3 miles as we arrive back at the stone bridge that marks the return of roads and civilization. Though our four-wheeled cocoon awaits, all windows will be down on the ride home, letting in as much nature as possible.

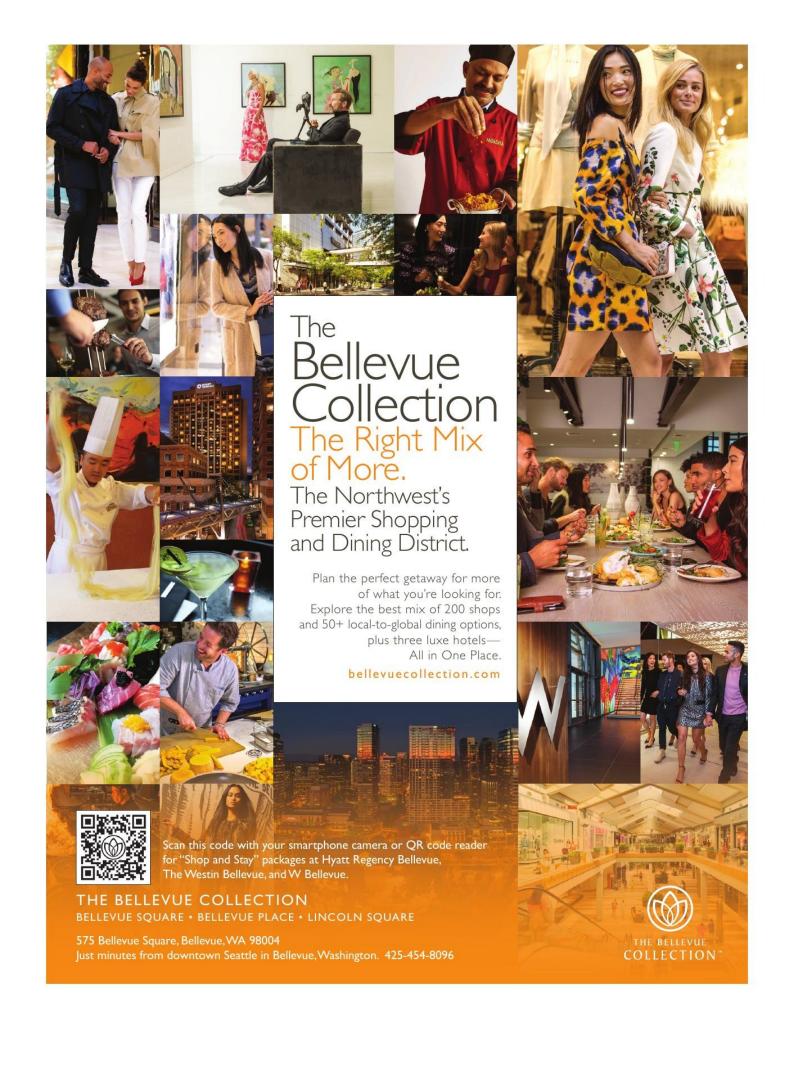
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Rob Dunton is a Southern California writer and photographer.



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>> ON POINT **SAVVY TRAVELER**



FRUGAL TRAVEL

Spend less on your international vacation, from liftoff to landing

By Johnny Jet

)) I love saving money when I journey abroad.

The only thing I enjoy more? Teaching others my tips for simplifying trips and cutting costs. Here are some international-travel savings secrets, so you can vacation more often, while spending less:

- Opt for off-season. Of course, few want to sunbathe on a beach in southern France, midwinter. But if you time it right, you'll get the best of everything: Lower prices, lighter crowds and great weather. Go right before the destination's prime vacation season begins, or right after it ends; this is called "shoulder season." Airfares and hotel rates may be lower than in peak season (typically, summer), so you'll skip long museum lines and jockeying for poolside cabanas. April/May and September/October are my favorite months to visit European countries, the Caribbean, and other top vacation spots.
- Carry a card. Overseas, the right card—such as the Alaska Airlines Visa Signature® card avoids international transaction fees, which can add around 3 percent to each purchase. Try to charge with a card that gives benefits, such as miles toward

your next vacation.

But before leaving for Prague or Paris, share travel plans with your bank. Otherwise, an overseas patisserie visit may trigger a fraud alert and a hold on your card. Consider signing up for notifications, so your card issuer will text when any charges occur. If an unauthorized transaction does happen while you're traveling, you'll find out immediately.

■ Stash cash. Always carry the local currency—such as pesos or euros-because some stores, taxis and other vendors don't accept credit. Or may charge extra for card usage. I skip currency exchange booths, as the quick cash comes with poor exchange rates and additional fees. Instead, I withdraw money using an ATMpreferably one belonging to a partner institution of my U.S. bank. For example, Bank of America is a partner bank to Barclays in the United Kingdom. Of course,

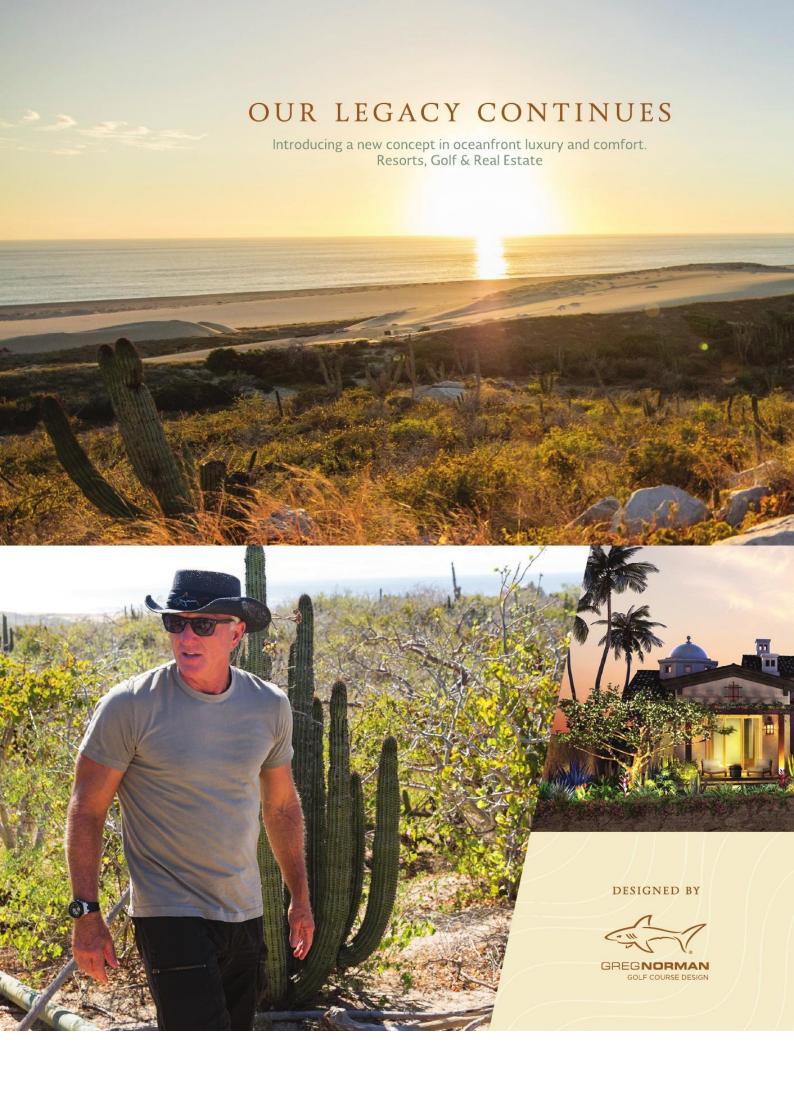
investigate any potential ATMrelated safety or theft issues in your destination.

- Pay locally. In popular international destinations, you may find stores, restaurants and hotels asking whether you'd like to pay a bill in U.S. dollars or the local currency. Choose the local option, because these shops may charge transaction and conversion fees if you try to pay with U.S. dollars.
- Save on sleep. Spend less by signing up for a hotel loyalty program (which may offer free Wi-Fi) or upgrading to club level, which may come with a suite deal, a buffet breakfast, complimentary parking or other extras. If you've forgotten your toothbrush or a razor? Ask the front desk if free toiletries are available, before running out to buy another. And always review your hotel bill for unexpected charges or fees at checkout time.

Play game of phones. One of the best ways to save money on international travel: the right phone plan. International calls, email checks and online map navigation can add up to shocking bill totals in the mail, post-trip.

Call your cell service provider to discover potential charges in advance, or ask about switching to an international plan. The right plan depends on your destination, the trip length and your phone use (quick calls or heavy-data-use Instagram posts). If this all sounds like a hassle, try renting a phone, SIM card or mobile hotspot from a biz such as Cellular Abroad. If you don't plan to use your phone often, put it in airplane mode to avoid any accidental data use or phone calls, then manually enable Wi-Fi en route. Bon voyage. ズ

Johnny Jet is a Los Angeles-based travel expert who visits 20 countries each year. Read more of his travel tips at johnnyjet.com.











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THE FEED,





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THE MIX

A DETROIT FESTIVAL TO BE JAZZED ABOUT

had an extensive discography and a Grammy Award nomination, was the youngest person and first female to win Denmark's prestigious Jazzpar Prize, and is part of Detroit's rich jazz tradition, which includes names such as Stevie Wonder and Aretha Franklin. Allen, who passed away in 2017 at age 60, will be celebrated at the free Detroit Jazz Festival—Aug. 31–Sept. 3 along Detroit's waterfront—when the festival's Resident Ensemble showcases Allen's music. The ensemble features Esperanza Spalding and Terri Lyne Carrington, who performed with Allen in the jazz trio ACS.

Festivalgoers can also enjoy music from Artist-in-Residence Chick Corea, who currently holds the record for most jazz Grammy wins; Chris Dave and the Drumhedz, which has played with artists such as Lady Gaga and Erykah Badu; and Marcus Miller, who has written for Miles Davis and Eric Clapton. For more, visit detroitjazzfest.org. —Dannie Ray



Saxophonist Wayne Shorter plays during the 2017 Detroit Jazz Festival.

'MOTHER OF ALL RELAYS'

Mount Hood and Seaside, Oregon, are separated by a 199-mile stretch of rugged mountains, steep hills and evergreen forests. On Aug. 24–25, 1,050 teams of eight to 12 runners are taking on this formidable terrain as they compete in the 37th-annual Hood to Coast Relay (HTC), whose sponsors include Alaska Airlines.

This "Mother of All Relays" is broken up into 36 legs, each ranging from 3.80 to 7.83 miles and varying in difficulty. Team members run

anywhere from three to five legs each. As the race unfolds, a favorite pastime of spectators involves remarking on the competition's clever and unusual team names, such as 2017's Elton Jog, Cirque du Sore Legs and Scrambled Legs.

The event also hosts an additional 400 teams in the Portland to Coast Walk Relay and 50 teams in the Portland to Coast High School Challenge (130 miles each). Visit hoodtocoastrelay.com/htc for more information. —Sophia Scheer







CONCERTS AT THE MURAL

Fridays in August mean free live music at the Mural Amphitheatre in Seattle. The concert series, presented by Seattle Center and radio station KEXP, features music by groups such as punk quartet Tacocat, rock band Afghan Whigs, Delvon Lamarr Organ Trio and rock band The Moondoggies.

The all-ages concerts, whose sponsors include Alaska Airlines, showcase some of KEXP's favorite independent music on summer evenings. Guests can



bring their own picnics and also enjoy a beer and wine garden.

)) THE FEED THE MIX

Visit seattlecenter.com/ concertsatthemural

for more. -Andrew Waite

BUMBERSHOOT HAS THE ARTS **COVERED**

)) J. Cole, Fleet Foxes and SZA will be among the headliners at the 48th-annual Bumbershoot arts festival at Seattle Center, Aug. 31-Sept. 2. Other musical acts include California pop artist Marc E. Bassy, Canadian rock group Arkells and Seattle singer/songwriter Noah Gundersen.

While music makes up the majority of the festival, the name Bumbershoot, which is a

synonym for umbrella, also represents that the festival is "an umbrella for all of the arts," with comedy, craft vendors, light shows, films and more on display throughout the weekend.

Eugene Mirman, who is the voice of Gene on the Bob's Burgers animated series, will be among the comedians performing. Bumbershoot will also feature Sub Pop's pop-up shop, where festivalgoers can browse art and merchandise associated with the label, and B-Eats, the festival's food and drink lineup, which will include Southpaw Pizza and Frankie & Jo's, a vegan and gluten-free ice cream shop. For more information, visit bumbershoot.com.

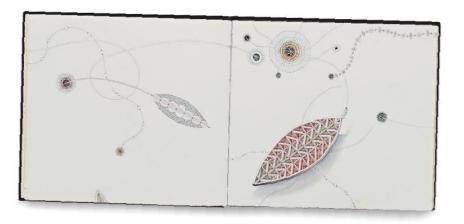
—Dannie Ray

WATER CRAFT

>> "Di mare" translates from Italian to English as "of the sea," and water has always been in Dominic Di Mare's blood

His father was a fisherman who moved from Sicily to California during the Great Depression. In Monterey, Di Mare was enlisted to craft fishing lures, dye ropes blue and carve thousands of pieces of bait at precise angles. These were some of the formative artistic experiences for Di Mare, who has since gone on to become a master of craft.

Di Mare, born in 1932, is a celebrated Bay Area artist known for his dimensional weaving, cast-paper work and other forms. His art—from incredibly detailed watercolors to intricate mixed-media pieces—is on display at San Francisco's Museum of Craft and Design through Oct. 28 in "Anchors in Time: Dominic Di Mare." The exhibit is titled after a 176-page book of the same name, which is available at the museum.

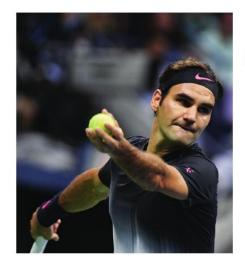


The exhibit's artwork includes A Voyage (pictured above), which is a watercolor-and-ink drawing. The lures in the piece are not only a nod to Di Mare's father, but also represent Di Mare and his siblings.

Museumgoers can view other water-themed pieces such as Wave Rocker, which is a mixed-media sculpture shaped like a boat and made from clay, wood, thread, brass and feathers.

For more information, visit sfmcd.org. —Dannie Ray

>> THE FEED THE MIX



US OPEN CELEBRATES 50 YEARS

To the past 15 years, Roger Federer of Switzerland and Rafael Nadal of Spain have won nearly 40 tennis Grand Slam singles titles between them. Now, at 36 and 32 respectively, and still ranked as the top two in the world, these players are redefining the trajectory of a tennis career by winning six of the last seven Grand Slam tournaments between them coming into the US Open.

Federer, shown at left, and Nadal will be among nearly 260 players—men and women looking to further their legacies during the US Open's 50th anniversary, Aug. 27–Sept. 9 at the USTA Billie Jean King National Tennis Center in Queens, New York.

On the women's side, 23-time Grand Slam singles champion Serena Williams of the United States will compete against a young and talented field that includes 2018 French Open champion Simona Halep of Romania.

The tournament will feature some matches at the new Louis Armstrong Stadium.

For more information, visit usopen.org.

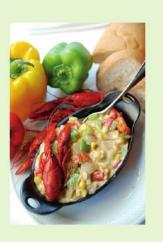
-Charlie White

IN NEW ORLEANS, AUGUST IS 'COOL'

)) More than 95 restaurants,

including Arnaud's Restaurant in the French Quarter, Palace Cafe in the Central Business District and Shaya in the Garden District, are serving prix-fixe meals all August as part of Coolinary New Orleans. The name refers to "cool" restaurant deals that come during one of the year's hottest months. Menus vary from traditional Creole cuisine to contemporary fare and are offered in brunch, lunch and dinner options.

Visit coolinaryneworleans.com for more information. —Megan Campbell





BALLOONS GLOW AND GO

)) On Sept. 15, nearly 70 hot-air balloons will rise out of Forest Park in St. Louis, dotting the sky with a bright rainbow of colors and patterns—checks, circles, stripes and swirls. Dating to 1973, the Great Forest Park Balloon Race is one of the best-attended single-day balloon races in the country, with more than 150,000 spectators expected to visit this year.

During the event, a "hare" balloon will depart first to drop an X-shape target. Then the nearly 70 "hound" balloons will take flight and race to drop a birdseed bag as close as possible to the target. Weather conditions influence the direction and length of the race, ensuring that each year is a unique and exciting challenge.

On the evening before the race, spectators can meet the pilots and see their balloons during Balloon Glow, which features gleaming tethered balloons. Every few minutes, a horn will signal and pilots will fire their burners in sync, resulting in a colorful, coordinated light display. For more information, visit greatforestparkballoonrace.com. —Sophia Scheer



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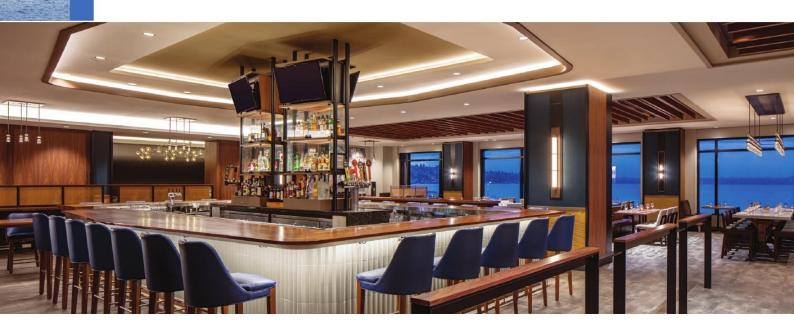
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>> THE FEED TRAVELER AT LARGE

TO TRULY SEE THE WORLD

By Samantha Brown

)) I've now been traveling the world

as a career for 20 years. In that time I've visited close to 70 countries and well over 300 cities. One of my first TV travel series, Passport to Europe, earned me the title "the girl with the best job in the world." Yet after two years of filming all throughout Europe, and seeing its greatest hits, I actually began to think that I didn't want this job anymore—that maybe I liked travel but didn't love it. Don't get me wrong—my time in Europe was a blessing, and I still love traveling there. But then I visited Latin America, and that is where I truly fell in love with travel and became the traveler I am today. So, what changed?

I didn't realize it at the time, but when I was in Europe, I spent all my energy on the must-sees and must-dos—the castles, cathedrals, monuments and museums—and this naturally limited me to focusing on the past. In Latin America, I found myself without an intense itinerary of must-sees. I relaxed and spent more time with people. I was no longer in the past. I was *in that moment*, and the simple act of being in the moment gave me a much more authentic personal experience.

Ever since I had that realization, I have approached every destination with the same mantra that has become the backbone of every episode I shoot, as well the main pillar of travel advice I give: "Don't spend all your time in the past."

This is easier said than done in the incredible destinations around the world where history is rich, deep and astounding. And, sure, many castles and cathedrals are completely lovely and worthwhile. I just prefer not to explore them to the exclusion of everything else. So there are things that I do to break out of the pattern of being an overachieving, FOMO, cathedral-bagging tourist. One of my strategies is simply to set out on a walk. Often, I have no intended destination, no plan, and I use no map



or app. I simply head down streets because I think they look intriguing, and I eventually find my way to where people live, work and play. Taking this approach, I've perused beautiful old bookstores in London; I've sat on a park bench in Shanghai to watch 100 people learn to chacha; I've tested out my sixth-grade Spanish in a little restaurant in Argentina—and ate very well. My goal is never to check something off my list, but instead to be a part of everyday life. Because everyday life in another part of the world is absolutely extraordinary.

One of my favorite things to do in every country—or state, for that matter—is to find one coffee shop to begin every day of my visit. To me, the coffee shop or cafe is a center of culture that gives you a pulse on life in the present. I scope out a cafe reasonably near my hotel where I get to feel the ebb and flow of a destination and possibly feel like a local myself. There's nothing better than just sitting outside a French café with the sound of the pages of newspapers being turned while tiny metal spoons clink against cups to stir in sugar. And then there's the feeling of being engulfed by the voices of people speaking entirely in French, Italian or Chinese—this provides a soundtrack

all its own. One time I picked a no-frills local cafe in Verona, Italy, far from the enchanting main square. Everyone was chattering in Italian when the song *Aquarius/Let the Sunshine In* came on. One by one, people joined in, singing the chorus in English: "Let the sunshine / Let the sunshine in / The sunshine in!" Eventually, the whole cafe was singing along. Then the song ended, and everyone went back to conversing in Italian.

What I love most about traveling abroad is the chance to be surrounded by what I don't know—and the need to explore my way in. Of course, it's powerful standing in the middle of a cathedral built 500 years ago or atop the Great Wall, parts of which are more than 2,000 years old. But I also want to connect with a culture as it is today and have those moments that say I am here. I know the feeling of wanting to see it all—the top 10s and greatest hits—but to truly enjoy cultures around the world, I've discovered it's important not to cram in as much as possible, but sometimes just to let the sunshine in.

The second season of the travel TV series Samantha Brown's Places to Love is scheduled to air in January 2019 on PBS.



EXCITING CALGARY

The Canadian city is the gateway to cultural activities and the Canadian Rockies

By Kevin Brooker

With a population of more than 1.2 million people, Calgary is a gleaming metropolis in southern Alberta, Canada, set near the transition between the prairie and the foothills of the Canadian Rockies.

It is a city where outdoor fun is everywhere, including floating down the Bow River or Elbow River, two blue-green, glacier-fed waterways that merge in the city. Bald eagles, mink and beavers are routinely spotted around the rivers. Last summer, I joined a group of paddle-boarders on the Bow. As we rounded a bend in the river, we saw a rising flock of more than 100 American white pelicans.

As vacationers from the heat of the western United States, the birds no doubt came to enjoy Calgary summers, which include long, sunny days, cool nights and superb fishing.

Calgary also has a thriving arts-and-culture scene, featuring a variety of museums, music and theater. This summer, Theatre Calgary's

Shakespeare by the Bow will perform a new adaptation of *The Two Gentlemen of Verona* at Prince's Island Park in the heart of the city, through August 19.

The National Music Centre tells the story of music in Canada, and features fascinating exhibits for top Canadian bands and musicians. There are also unique exhibits, including the original Rolling Stones' mobile recording studio, built in a truck now parked in the neighboring King Edward Hotel.

Calgary's Glenbow Museum is known for its collection of Western Canadian art, as well as depicting the history and culture of the area. The exhibit "Alex Janvier: Modern Indigenous Master" is on display through September 9 and features more than 100 paintings and drawings from the pioneering aboriginal artist's lifetime of work.

For a glimpse into Calgary's past, Heritage Park Historical Village offers more than 180





Clockwise
from above:
Calgary's famous
Peace Bridge. The
Bow River in Banff
National Park.
Alex Janvier's
painting Lubicon
at the Glenbow
Museum.

exhibits and attractions, including a replica of a fur trading fort from the 1830s, and the Gasoline Alley Museum, which houses a restored collection of automobiles from the early to mid 20th century. And dinosaur lovers will want to travel 90 miles northeast of Calgary to the Royal Tyrrell Museum of Palaeontology, which has more than 160,000 fossils and includes more than 40 mounted dinosaur skeletons, one of the world's largest displays of dinosaur bones.

Calgary is a town that loves sports. In addition to hosting the Calgary Stampede, which takes place each July, the city also has horse competitions throughout the year at Spruce Meadows, a facility that hosts top-flight equestrian events. The Spruce Meadows Masters, one of the world's most prestigious show jumping events, will be held September 5–9.

Football fans can see the Canadian Football League's Calgary Stampeders in action during the regular season, which runs through November 3, and the National Hockey League's Calgary Flames play their first home game of the 2018–2019 season on October 6, when they host the Vancouver Canucks.

Golf fans should be sure to bring their golf clubs when visiting Stampede City. Calgary is home to more than 30 golf courses. You can watch the pros in action during the PGA Champions Tour's Shaw Charity Classic, being held August 31–September 2, at Calgary's Canyon Meadows Golf & Country Club.

As for dining, Calgary is a multicultural food center, with a special emphasis on Asian cuisine. One of my favorites is Anju Restaurant, which offers an upscale take on Korean dishes. The city's farm-to-table movement is also

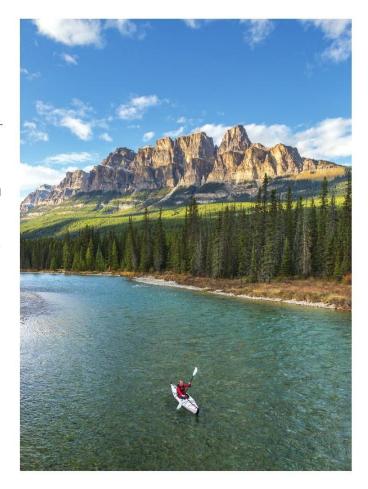


No trip to this city would be complete without traveling about 80 miles west into the Canadian Rockies to the world-famous alpine town of Banff in Banff National Park. The area boasts breathtaking scenery, grand lodging such as the renowned Fairmont Banff Springs, glacier tours, hiking trails, horseback riding and gondola rides.

About 40 miles northwest of Banff is Lake Louise, a legendary location surrounded by mountains and home to the stately Fairmont Chateau Lake Louise.

⊀

Kevin Brooker writes from Calgary.





DAY 1

)) In Costa Rica, we visited verdant rainforests and vibrant waterfalls, such as the Rio Celeste Waterfall in Tenorio Volcano National Park.



Adventurers Jess Dales, right, and Quin Schrock fill their social media feeds with epic photos of camping, hiking and exploring. They traveled to Liberia, Costa Rica, as part of Alaska's #WeekendWanderer series and posted these breathtaking images with comments by Dales. For more, follow @alaskaair on Instagram.

blog.alaskaair.com

COSTA RICA'S PURE BEAUTY

When I was 6 years old, my friend's dad, who traveled all over the world, returned with tales of lush forests, neon-blue waterfalls, white-sand beaches and a stunning array of biodiversity. And, thus, my obsession began—Costa Rica. I checked out books from the library, cut out pictures from my parents' magazines and put Costa Rica at the top of my list of places to visit when I grew up. So I was thrilled when Quin told me about the #WeekendWanderer excursion to Liberia, a city in northwestern Costa Rica.

During our trip, we crossed the suspension bridge at Monteverde Cloud Forest Biological Reserve, which is home to an incredible variety of plants such as orchids.

We spent much of our time hiking to, swimming underneath and sitting beside some of the most beautiful waterfalls I have ever seen. We walked through the green landscape of Rincón de la Vieja National Park and discovered La Cangreja Waterfall. We trekked through rain in Tenorio Volcano National Park to the Rio Celeste Waterfall, delighted by its turquoise color and the winding stairway to the viewing platform. We found solitude at the Llanos de Cortés Waterfall near Bagaces, where you can watch the falls from a sandy beach or jump into the teal pool at the base.

All weekend, I was reminded of the Costa Rican saying *pura vida* (pure life)—a sentiment that seems always present here.

THE FEED

#WEEKENDWANDERER

DAY 2

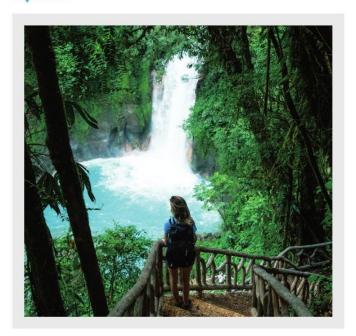


Monteverde Cloud Forest Biological Reserve is renowned for scientific research. Plus, it has an awesome red suspension bridge!

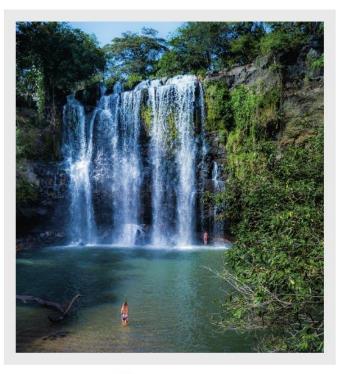


🕿 After a 3-mile hike in Rincón de la Vieja National Park, we relaxed next to La Cangreja Waterfall.

DAY 3



We loved the color of the water at Rio Celeste. Not to mention the seriously cool stairs that take you to the viewing platform.



A less-than-1-mile hike brought us to one of the most scenic cascades in Costa Rica: Llanos de Cortés Waterfall near Bagaces.



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>> THE FEED OUT & ABOUT CHARLESTON





TIME TRAVELING ON FOOT

By Kinsey Gidick

)> In downtown Charleston, South Carolina, history is everywhere and literally demands your attention, with ballast-stone streets that require you to notice where you step, and church bells that were installed as far back as 1764 interjecting in conversations. In the Holy City—as locals call it for its early religious tolerance and numerous places of worship—the past is always present. One way to venture figuratively back in time is to take a stroll in the South of Broad section of town.

I like to begin walks on Meeting Street at the Nathaniel Russell House. Originally the home of a wealthy shipping merchant, this mansion was completed in 1808 and is considered one of the country's most impressive examples of Neoclassical architecture. One look at the house's spiraling wooden staircase will tell you why. Built without nails or screws, the freestanding, cantilevered design is jaw-dropping.

Continuing north on Meeting Street leads directly to the Four Corners of Law. The buildings at Meeting and Broad streets—St. Michael's Church, the post office, city hall and the courthouse—are referred to as "Hail, Mail, Bail and Jail" by Charlestonians.

Walk east on Broad Street, and you'll find great places to eat. For dinner, enjoy oysters at Bar Normandy (which

is a cafe during the day). Next door, the upscale Oak Steakhouse serves marbled chops of beef and a terrific burger. Or, if a cold beer is your chief desire, down the block is the Blind Tiger pub, which has a fun patio in back.

Keep heading east to the Old Exchange & Provost Dungeon on East Bay Street. This historical site played a role in the early days of the American Republic. The exchange building is where South Carolina ratified the U.S. Constitution in 1788. The dungeon was a prison where British forces held American patriots and others.

Just south of here is Rainbow Row. Arguably the most photographed street in Charleston, it takes its name from the 13 pastel homes that line it. Head a few more blocks south, and you'll land in the area at the tip of Charleston's peninsula, a section of town known as The Battery. Its defining feature is a seawall that was built as a bulwark against the sea and that later housed a Civil Warera defensive artillery battery. Today, the seawall features a scenic promenade.

Finish your stroll by walking down Stoll's Alley to Church Street. Up the street is the charming wine-and-cheese shop called goat.sheep.cow., where you can order a charcuterie plate to go. This is a terrific way to cap off your Charleston walking tour.

Dimpses of
Charleston's history
abound in the southern
part of the city's peninsula. Highlights include
The Battery seawall,
left, and the houses of
Rainbow Row, above.

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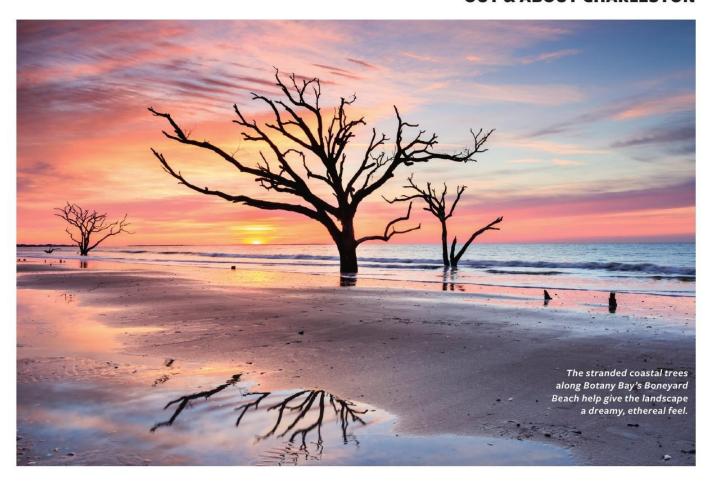
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OUT & ABOUT CHARLESTON



LOWCOUNTRY DREAMSCAPE

By Jacqui Calloway

)) It's a winding 45-mile drive from

Charleston to the picturesque Edisto Island. En route, the road passes beneath arches of oak trees dripping with Spanish moss.

The island's jewel is a parkland known as the Botany Bay Plantation Wildlife Management Area or "Botany Bay." Here, two former cotton plantations were merged into one, and the land was eventually deeded to the state to create more than 3,000 acres of wildlife preserve, with access free to the public (except on Tuesdays and during certain hunting events). Stop at the entrance kiosk for ideas for walks or a drivingtour map. If you bring a canoe or kayak, you can launch it at nearby Sea Cloud Landing.

Botany Bay may have the sleepy feel characteristic of the South Carolina Lowcountry, but the natural world is bustling in these parts. You

might find deer munching in pine forests and egrets soaring above saltwater marshes. Abandoned farmland gives way to fields of honey-suckle and sweet blackberries, with songbirds trilling overhead. And, while I haven't found an alligator here myself, it's rumored that you can sometimes see them.

For history buffs, the area has architectural ruins at what was once the Bleak Hall Plantation—from the crumbling Jacob's Well thought to have been used in the 1800s, to an impeccably preserved 19th century Gothic Revival icehouse.

The pièce de résistance is the area's Boneyard Beach, where shoreline erosion has meant that the ocean has advanced inland on coastal forests, stranding skeletal, gnarled trees along a 2.8-mile shoreline. At low tide, baby sea turtles and fiddler crabs scuttle across the sand; as the sea rises, the trees are flooded by the Atlantic. On an overcast morning, the ocean mist meets the clouds, creating an improbable dreamscape of stark majesty worthy of Salvador Dalí.

After exploring the preserve, make your way to the downtown center of Edisto Beach and stop for a plate of shrimp 'n' grits at The Old Post Office Restaurant, open for dinner from February through December. This dish is about as fresh as you can get, made with locally caught shrimp and with grits produced by Geechie Boy Mills, about 5 miles up the road. As you walk around town, feel the thick ocean air and the salt on your skin. They're small reminders of a dreamy locale that's almost too beautiful to be real.



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>> THE FEED PLATES & POURS



SUMMER SHELLFISH

By David George Gordon

>>> "In warmer weather, we crave a fresh, briny, cold oyster," says Maylin Chavez, chef/ owner of Portland's Olympia Oyster Bar.

The cooler waters of Alaska and the Pacific Northwest are a great nursery for summer oysters, he says: "West Coast oysters have a nice salinity, and cucumber and grassy notes."

Those notes reflect a briny bivalve's host environment, much like terroir's influence on wine. Consider it "merroir," according to Tyler Bell, owner of **L&E Oyster Bar** in Los Angeles.

"An oyster tastes like the place it came from," he says. "At the oyster bar, we have 12 to 15 options that range from Prince Edward Island to Virginia, Alaska to the Baja Peninsula." He particularly enjoys Alaska's Kachemak Bay and Glacier Point oysters, along with Island Creek oysters from Duxbury, Massachusetts.

Bell suggests serving raw oysters ice-cold with a touch of lemon, or in a light "ponzutype or other Asian-influenced sauce," for a summer meal.

Fruit and other bright seasonal flavors pair well with the flavor of West Coast oysters, says Chavez, who dresses oysters in cucumber pico de gallo, serrano chile and cilantro at her restaurant. A peach-and-pluot ceviche is nice as well, she says.

Those who avoid the oyster in its primal state might try cooking it, using summer-friendly preparation methods. At gatherings, Bell grills oysters with butter, which is tanged-up with barbecue sauce. And at his restaurant, L&E Oyster Bar, the bivalve is grilled with chipotle and charred onions.

Chavez suggests roasting oysters with poblano peppers, garlic and onions. If camping, she places oysters over campfire coals until the shells pop open. Then she dresses the cooked oysters with lemon juice and hot sauce, for a rich summertide of flavor.

✓

OYSTERS IN AUGUST?

Some say oysters should only be eaten during months with R's in them, and avoided in summer. Historically, wild oysters haven't been at their prime in flavor or texture in summer, because it's mating season. But thanks to quality control and selective breeding, the mollusk is now a year-round delicacy.

In summer, seek oysters grown in deep water, says Bill Dewey of **Taylor Shellfish Farms** of Washington state. Even in summer, deep-water light and temps mimic cooler months, when oysters aren't spawning. Or choose Kumamotos, he suggests: "Kumamotos originated in southern Japan, where spawning takes place much later in the year." Another option: Triploid oysters, bred to forgo spawning, Dewey says.

And always select fresh oysters with tightly sealed shells, a sign of vitality and freshness. —David George Gordon, author of Heaven on the Half Shell.



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the Cascade mountains, offers endless opportunities for camping, fishing, waterfall viewing and rafting. Unwind down the Willamette River, a relaxing waterway that beckons you to paddle slow – or just float – and afterwards settle in for local cuisine, and wine, of course.

And if you are looking for a little more adventure, the wild and scenic McKenzie River is the perfect place to kayak, fly fish, and soak in hot mineral-spring-fed pools.

Stay in a resort, cabin, or even a tee pee, and embrace iconic Pacific Northwest views and adventures.



OREGON TREES GO PLACES

The Willamette National Forest in Oregon has been selected to provide the 2018 United States Capitol Christmas Tree. The tree will be cut in early November and take a 3,000-mile coast-to-coast journey that will trace the Oregon Trail in reverse.

In celebration, two hundred glass ornaments have been hidden throughout the forest in the Willamette Valley. Lucky hikers will find the ornaments and win local prizes, and all entrants will be automatically entered to win a trip for two to Washington D.C. to attend the U.S. Capitol Christmas Tree lighting and festivities.

Learn how to find an ornament at oregonwinecountry.org/ us-capitol-christmas-tree

>>> THE FEED PLATES & POURS



SEA SIPS

By Brad Japhe

>>> Few foods have the transportive effect of a proper oyster—open one up and enjoy the ocean in edible form. But the briny essence making the bivalve so splendid begs to be backed by a refreshing liquid. An oyster's delicate texture and flavor requires a thoughtful sipping selection to enhance, rather than overpower, these gentle notes.

Because quality oysters are often expensive, pairing is not a decision to take lightly. Dive in with these pro tips and you'll likely swim away with your money's worth.

Beer and oysters say "home" for Daniel Gorman, executive chef at Henley in Nashville, Tennessee. In his native South Carolina, he grew up grilling his oysters. "When I do simple, classic roasted oysters with traditional toppings I always go for the classic, cold American lager or a Tecate with lime."

In his restaurant, however, raw is the preferred preparation: "When I do more fruity, small, supple oysters, I prefer clean, light IPAs."

Hints of cucumber and melon are found in Kumamoto oysters. Try pairing Kumamotos with Marine Dream—a crisp, tropical IPA by San Diego's **Coronado Brewing.**

For a saltier oyster, a Wellfleet, perhaps—chef Gorman suggests Coolcumber from Wicked Weed Brewing (named, the company says, for King Henry's VIII's description of hops: "a wicked and pernicious weed").

In the U.S. South, "oysters live in symbiosis with beer," says Ari Kolender, chef/owner at Hayden in Culver City, California. He goes with a crisp, light ale. "My favorite is a German Kölsch. At Hayden, we serve **Reissdorf.**"

But some crave something other than the beer/bivalve combo. At the Malibu restaurant

Mon-Li, Matthew Biancaniello goes by "The Cocktail Chef." The moniker results from his spirited food-liquor combinations, such as an oyster swimming in a half shell of mezcal.

"I started pairing alcohol with oysters about five years ago," he recalls. "The brine in the oyster marries so well with mezcal and scotch," such as the gentle smoke of **Montelobos** mezcal or the maritime malt in **Bowmore** 15-year-old Scotch.

Wine lovers can turn to a well-balanced Chardonnay. Chicago-based sommelier Belinda Chang recommends pouring Napa Valley Chardonnay from Cakebread Cellars, which she describes as "dry" and containing "hints of mineral that are an excellent match for oysters." Line the wine up with lightly brined Northeast oyster varieties such as Aunt Dotty's or Island Creek. Slurp, sip and repeat.

★

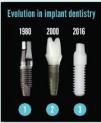
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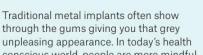


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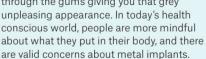


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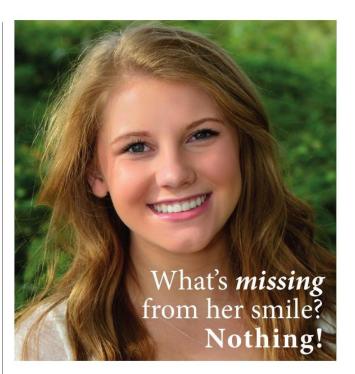
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also heard implants could be painful, took many visits and over 6 months to heal, and were expensive. Then she met with Dr. Shawn Keller. With many options offered, treatment was made affordable with a payment plan. Jordan wanted to improve the look of the rest of her smile and with Dr. Shawn's advanced sedation, she had the implant placed and cosmetic rejuvenation done at one visit, all while she slept peacefully. Thanks to the stem cell therapy used during the procedure, she had no discomfort and her beautiful smile was completed in the same day. Now Jordan is proud to smile with the peace of mind that her healthy new teeth will last a lifetime.

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SERVING UP FUN IN THE SUN

By Craig Hill

>>> On August 16, the "Wimbledon of beach volleyball" gets underway next to the Manhattan Beach Pier in Los Angeles. The 59th-annual Manhattan Beach Open, one of the nation's oldest professional beach volleyball events, is a spectacle steeped in history, with players competing on 20 sand courts before thousands of spectators.

The success of the Manhattan Beach Open, shown above, and other events on the schedule for the Association of Volleyball Professionals (AVP)—one of the sport's main professional circuits—is another sign of the growing popularity of beach volleyball. Interest in the sport has been trending upward since it became an official Olympic sport in 1996. Another major boost came when the NCAA added women's beach volleyball to its roster of sports in 2011, and then added an official championship tournament in 2016. The college competitions led to greater interest in youth beach volleyball programs, says Donald Sun, managing partner of AVP.

While the sport remains most popular in coastal areas, AVP tournaments are played in various cities across the

United States. This year's AVP Gold Series Championships are being held at Chicago's Oak Street Beach Park on the shores of Lake Michigan, August 30-September 2.

One unlikely center for the sport is Seattle, Washington, more famous for showers than sunshine. However, when summer arrives in the Pacific Northwest, beach volleyball pops up everywhere. This year, AVP held its Seattle Open in June. A separate organization in Seattle, the Alki Volleyball Association (AVA), is holding its Seattle championship on August 4, and a junior championship on August 5.

Phillip van Rooyen, who co-founded AVA in 2004, says the sport's growth in Seattle has been remarkable. He says it's common for Seattle tournaments to have thousands of spectators and a waiting list of teams wanting to compete.

Sun and van Rooyen say there are many reasons why beach volleyball is on the rise. The equipment is relatively inexpensive, the sport is easy to learn, and it can be played at any age. It also helps bring people together. "It's a lot of fun and a great way to build community," van Rooyen says. "What's better than spending time at the beach?" *

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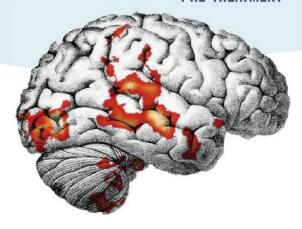
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WHEELS

FAMILY SIZE

The Ascent—Subaru's largest vehicle ever—is ready for big adventures

By Bengt Halvorson

>>> The Ascent is Subaru's second attempt at going big.

Unlike the Tribeca (2006-2014), which lacked the brawny purposeful styling and personality that many have come to expect from Subaru, the Ascent stays true to the brand's form. The model is a step up in size from the ruggedly versatile Outback wagon and utilitarian Forester, and it finally gives Subaru a true family-size SUV—very much in the same mold as the Ford Explorer, Honda Pilot, Toyota Highlander and Volkswagen Atlas. With family and friends, I recently test-drove the Ascent Limited model for a week, finding that Subaru has scaled things up in all the right ways.



Plenty of seating

Some Ascent models offer three rows of seats that together can fit eight people. Our test vehicle had second-row captain's chairs, shown above, lowering the total seats to seven but providing a more luxurious, squabble-proof second row. We also experienced a cabin-brightening panoramic moonroof and a seat with an extendable thigh bolster for tall drivers.

Well-grounded

No matter which version you choose—Premium, Limited or Touring—the Ascent comes with all-wheel drive as a standard feature. The system inspires confidence on the road, and if you're venturing off the pavement, engaging the X-Mode button helps maintain steady traction on steep off-road grades or loose surfaces such as mud, sand or snow.



Organized and connected

The Ascent's interior has a variety of cubbies to store electronics while you're driving. There's also a bevy of beverage holders—19 standard places for cups or bottles—and up to eight USB charging ports. The infotainment system includes Apple CarPlay and Android Auto interfaces, and the Ascent is the first Subaru model to feature in-car Wi-Fi.

Automatic responses

With useful features such as EyeSight Driver Assist Technology with adaptive cruise control, steering-responsive headlights, a 180-degree front-view monitor, and a reverse automatic-braking system that will apply the brakes if something is in the way of your backup trajectory, the Ascent might also save the day—or much more—for distracted parents.

RE-ENGINEERED

)) THE FEED

Ascent's 2.4-liter turbocharged four-cylinder engine is new (though it keeps Subaru's flat "boxer" engine design, which has helped make the brand's vehicles distinct for decades). The Ascent's motor makes 260 horsepower and 277 pound-feet of torque and is paired with a new version of Subaru's Lineartronic continuously variable automatic transmission. This combination makes the Ascent feel perky around town and plenty responsive for passing on the open road.



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Roof rails come standard on the Ascent, so it's ready to haul kayaks or bikes. And Ascent's 5,000-pound tow rating is strong enough for getting smaller boats out to the water.

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MILEAGE PLAN PARTNER GUIDE

EVERYDAY EARNER

An everyday earner, who we'll call Ryan, is a

29-year-old Seattleite who loves booking spontaneous trips to new places. His favorite social media feeds are often his travel inspiration, and during trips he posts regularly to his own feeds. Ryan looks

apps, but he is loyal to brands such as Alaska that help him save money and provide a VIP experience. He's stoked because he just got a great last-minute deal on an Alaska flight to Oakland.

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EARN AT HOME

Ryan qualifies for the Alaska Airlines Visa Signature® card and earns one mile for every dollar spent on purchases made with the card. He earns 30,000 bonus miles after spending \$1,000 or more on purchases in the first 90 days of account opening. He installs the Mileage Plan Shopping button on his desktop web browser to see how many miles he can earn with online purchases made at some of the more than 850 Mileage Plan Shopping partners. Ryan also earns miles dining at one of more than 10,000 Mileage Plan Dining partner restaurants.

SUPER EARNER

A super earner, who we'll call Amber, is a

48-year-old tech executive who flies for business at least once a month, qualifying her for MVP Gold status. She seeks a comfortable travel experience and craves efficiency, so she can spend as much time as possible at home in San Fran-

cisco with her husband and two teenage daughters. She's flying Qantas on a business trip to Sydney and booked a room at one of the more than 400,000 hotels participating in Mileage Plan Hotels.



Amber earns miles when paying for products and services her family uses regularly. For instance, she earns miles every time she makes purchases with her Alaska Airlines Visa Signature® card—whether buying gas, groceries or great concert seats. And she earns a mile for every dollar she spends on the Rover pet-care service, which she relies on for setting up dog sitting. When Amber dines out, she earns miles with her Diners Club International membership, and she earns 5 miles per dollar spent through her Vinesse Wine Club membership.

For more information on the Alaska Airlines Visa Signature® card, refer to the advertisement on Page 70 of this magazine.

MILEAGE PLAN PARTNER GUIDE





MEMBER BENEFIT

EARN WHILE TRAVELING

Ryan starts his trip by saving money, because his first checked bag is free as a benefit of his Alaska Airlines Visa Signature® card. The good feelings continue on the flight, which earns Ryan about 800 miles, because a mile traveled is a mile earned on Alaska. In Oakland, Ryan earns miles through his Avis rental car—Avis is one of Mileage Plan's partners. Ryan earns more miles by ordering a bouquet from 1-800-Flowers. com to thank his aunt for dinner. Back home, the commercial parking lot where Ryan left his car rewards him with miles.

GO FAR WITH MILEAGE PLAN

Ryan wants to take his best friend on a trip to Mexico. He purchases a ticket for himself and for his friend; he uses Alaska's Famous Companion Fare™ (paying just the flight taxes and fees), which Ryan received after qualifying purchases with his new Alaska Airlines Visa Signature® card. Ryan also redeems miles to book a room through MileagePlanHotels.com.

With Alaska's Wine Flies Free program, Ryan can bring California's wine country back home to Seattle. The program allows Mileage Plan travelers to check a case of wine for free from select destinations.





MEMBER BENEFIT

EARN WHILE TRAVELING

Amber earns a mile for every mile traveled on Qantas. By flying Business Class, she receives a 25 percent class bonus, and all those miles—18,542—count toward her Mileage Plan elite status. In addition, as an MVP Gold, she earns another 200 percent bonus. In Sydney, Amber earns miles by booking a room through Mileage Plan Hotels, which offers 500 to 10,000 miles per night. Amber also earns miles via her Hertz car rental. When Amber's meeting runs late, her MVP Gold status lets her change her return flight with no fee.

GO FAR WITH MILEAGE PLAN

There is nothing like a vacation. Amber redeems miles to take her family to Hawai'i, and she gives her daughters a treat when she upgrades them to First Class, using two of her annual guest upgrades. The family stays at Aulani-Disney Vacation Club Villas, for which Amber redeems miles through MileagePlanHotels.com.

Don't have enough miles? Mileage Plan allows a member to combine miles and cash for flight and hotel redemptions.

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DUBLIN, IRELAND, CHARMS THROUGH ITS HISTORY, NATURE AND LIVELY MODERN CULTURE

BY DAVID ARMSTRONG

More than any city I know, Dublin, the thousand-year-old capital of Ireland, is a city of memory. Yet even with its strong sense of history and tradition, this vibrant center of a technologically advanced Ireland also embraces an innovative, even edgy, spirit.

I first began to understand this on a visit to Abbey Theatre, the national theater of Ireland. On the boards was a revival of *The Playboy of the Western World*, a drama written in the early 1900s by the Irish playwright J.M. Synge. In the play, a smooth-talking scalawag

spins a tale of attempted patricide and somehow charms a town, as well as a pub owner's daughter—temporarily. When the play was first performed in 1907, it caused uproar and protests, because of the play's unflinching satire. Yet Synge's writing was by turns farcical, lyrical and beautiful, and when the firstrate actors brought the work to life in the present day, I was transfixed.

Dubliners have embraced creative and avant-garde thought since at least Synge's day—and have led advances in fields ranging from arts and literature to modern technology. On a visit today you're sure to see—alongside medieval stone structures—glittering modern architecture and signs of Ireland's prominence in Europe's tech industry.

It's Dublin's welcoming spirit and engaging mix of old and new that pulls me back for repeat visits. This capital of more than 550,000 residents is a gregarious community, and Dublin's spirited nature is enlivened by mainstays of its culture: great music and theater.

Spanning the River Liffey, the lovely downtown is also eminently walkable. Grafton Street is one place you can dependably experience Dublin's past and present. The narrow building exteriors lining the street are festooned with fanciful design details, such as Jacobean



arched windows and columns stretching one or two stories up.

My favorite haunt in this area is Bewley's Grafton Street Cafe,

which first opened in 1927. Dublin's native son James Joyce used to frequent Bewley's, and he references it in his masterful book *Dubliners*. Spacious and well-appointed, Bewley's is a major draw for locals and visitors alike. The cafe fully reopened early this year after a roughly three-year, \$14 million renovation.

In addition to being an attraction on its own, Grafton Street connects two venerable locales. At the south end of the street is a place I return to on every visit: St. Stephen's Green Park, an eye-pleasing 22-acre city space that first opened in 1880 and is graced with well-tended flower gardens, mani-

cured lawns and a lovely pond. It's a great place to people-watch: pensioners on a stroll, young parents pushing prams in the soft morning light, office





workers on lunch break stretching their legs.

At the north end of Grafton Street is Trinity College Dublin. Trinity's handsome campus has a mix of vintage stone and redbrick buildings, and

glassy modern structures. Founded in 1592, Trinity was and is an intellectual incubator for the good and the great of Ireland. Alums include Oscar Wilde, Samuel Beckett and Jonathan Swift. Walking tours are available and worthwhile. And who knows? Some of the students you see here may represent the next generation of literary luminaries in Dublin—or future tech pioneers.

Long blessed with creative types in various fields, Dublin is also a fine place to hear music. Concerts by touring headliners are held at 3Arena, a 13,000-capacity indoor venue that opened in 2008. I myself gravitate to rock, folk and jazz venues in the lively Temple Bar area. There is the eponymous Temple Bar itself, and this is just one of many popular pubs in the area. I also like The Workman's Club, as well as the Vicar Street performing-arts center.

Broad, busy O'Connell Bridge spans the Liffey near the Temple Bar area. Opened in 1794, the bridge provides a

good view of the Neoclassical 1791 Custom House on the north bank. North of the river, the bridge feeds into O'Connell Street, a boulevard with department stores and international-brand storefronts. Anchoring the street's downtown blocks is another significant site: The General Post Office, a tall-columned Greek Revival structure. This was a hub for rebels during the 1916 Easter Rising that was put down by British forces but propelled forward



Ireland's republican revolution. Outside the GPO soars the needlelike 394-foot Spire of Dublin. Installed in 2003, this metallic landmark serves as a symbol of the modernizing city.

Another modern addition, which opened in 2016, is EPIC The Irish Emigration Museum. This state-of-the-art, fully digital venue brings to life Irish history and stories of Irish emigrants' influences worldwide. With its immersive interactive experiences—including giant touch screens that allow guests to take intriguing quizzes—this fascinating venue is one more example of Dublin's, and Ireland's, leadership in innovation.

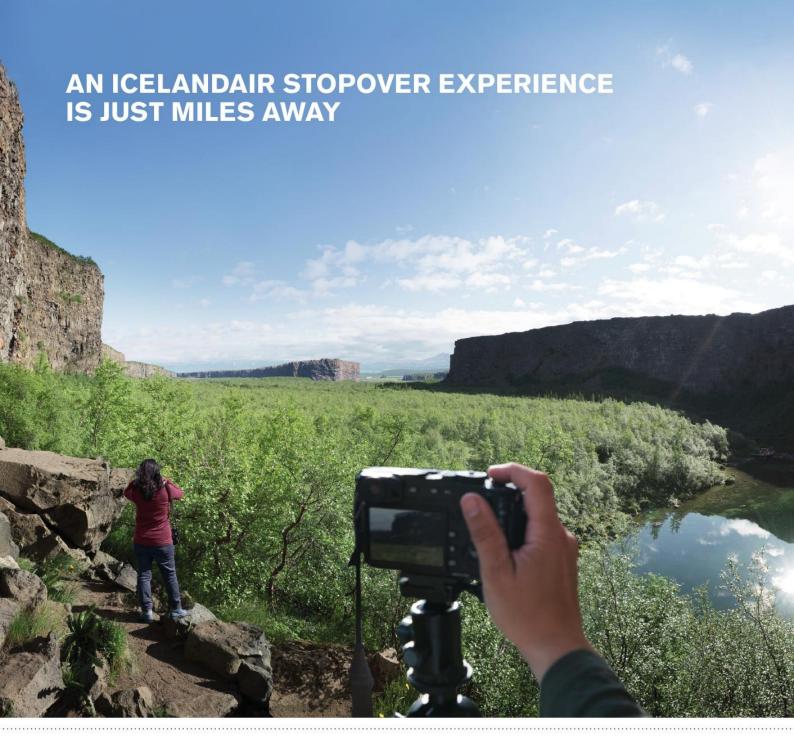
The great literary innovator James Joyce has been quoted as saying, "For myself, I always write about Dublin because if I can get to the heart of Dublin, I can get to the heart of all the cities of the world." I take this to indicate that there is something fundamental and worldly about Dublin. And yet it is also a *unique* mix—of fascinating past, cosmopolitan present and promising future.

★

World traveler David Armstrong writes from California.

Earn or redeem Mileage Plan miles when visiting Dublin, Ireland, on Alaska Global Partner Aer Lingus.

Clockwise from facing page: The Samuel Beckett Bridge spans the River Liffey; Bewley's cafe serves fine coffee and tea; EPIC The Irish Emigration Museum features cutting-edge exhibits; The Library of Trinity College Dublin houses many rare books.



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INSIDER INFO ON SIX GLOBAL DESTINATIONS: From Dublin, Ireland, to Buenos Aires, Argentina, and around the world, options abound for travel with Alaska Global Partner airlines. We asked frequent travelers for their tips and points of interest for some of the places you can go as a Mileage Plan member.



The Irish capital is a city of deep history and

modern appeal. Visit Dublin and its surroundings to see attractions tested by time, as well as exciting modern sites in this, The Fair City of Ireland.





• Dublin Castle, completed in 1204 as a defensive fortification, is the heart of historic Dublin. • Phoenix Park provides incredible greenery within the city, and has a herd of wild fallow deer.

· Guinness St. James's Gate Brewery, the historical home of the quintessential stout, offers fun, informative tours.

LESSER-KNOWN:

• The National Leprechaun Museum is thought to be the first of its kind in the world. • Iveagh Gardens is a bucolic urban oasis for afternoon naps on the grass. • The crypt in St. Michan's Church is home to actual mummies, viewable by the public.

What's in a name? Dublin comes from dubh linn ("black pool"), a water body that once formed at Dublin Castle.

WHERE TO GO IF YOU'RE A ... • Romantic: The Ha'penny Bridge, an

1816 span over the River Liffey, has fine city views. • Foodie: Brunch at Cotto, in

the Stoneybatter area, and try a black pudding sandwich. • Family: Day-trip to

the suburb Dún Laoghaire to visit the

National Maritime Museum of Ireland

and walk the pier. • History buff: A tour

of Christ Church Cathedral gives you a

glimpse of Dublin's history. • Lover of

popular culture: The Little Museum of

Dublin has guided pop culture tours.

Classic drinks: Sample local whiskeys at The Palace Bar. Raise a pint of Guinness at The Temple Bar and other pubs.

Notable restaurants: Enjoy modern Irish cooking at Forest & Marcy, and



visit classy Chapter One for its exceptional hospitality.

How to sound like a local: You might never sound like a local, but if you must try out an expression, describing something impressive as "deadly" is apt. And Slàinte (Slahnt-yuh) is a common toast.

Prime time: At night, the pub scene lights up, as does the base and top of the Spire of Dublin.

Local music: Be sure to attend a "trad" (traditional) session in one of the pubs, such as The Cobblestone in Smithfield.



Team to cheer: Dublin's Gaelic football team is a source of civic pride-prompting the expression "Up the Dubs!"

What to take home: Aran wool knits. milk chocolate, whiskey, Irish tweed.

Getting There: Dublin is the hub of Alaska Global Partner Aer Lingus. Aer Lingus serves destinations across Europe, from Seattle, San Francisco and other U.S. cities.

Clockwise from top left: The historical column-fronted General Post Office and needlelike Spire of Dublin; fallow deer in Phoenix Park; The Temple Bar pub; a pint of Guinness Irish stout.

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A nighttime walk through Osaka's Dōtonbori district-with its famous neon signage, food and entertainment—is a rich experience of sights, sounds and flavors. Osaka is also home to shrines, parks and a reconstructed castle. A trip to this fascinating port city brings travelers face-to-face with many facets of culture in Japan.

POPULAR ATTRACTIONS:

• Osaka Castle is a 1928 restoration of the centuries-old edifice, surrounded by parkland. • Dōtonbori, the neon-filled entertainment area, is where locals and visitors rub elbows. • Osaka Aquarium

Kaiyūkan has displays of Pacific Rim marine life.

LESSER-KNOWN:

• At the Cupnoodles Museum Osaka Ikeda, create your own custom instant ramen. • Amerikamura is an enclave of businesses that reinterprets Western pop culture. • At SpaWorld, immerse yourself in public bathing culture via

traditional onsen and themed baths.

WHERE TO GO IF YOU'RE A ...

• Romantic: Minatomachi River Place on the Dōtonbori River is attractively lit at night. • Foodie: Takashimaya department store takes the concept of a food court to new heights. • Family: Kids Plaza Osaka is a fun museum dedicated to child education. • History buff: Sumiyoshi Taisha, a Shinto shrine, has history reaching back roughly 1,800 years; Shitennōji Temple is a Buddhist temple built in 593. • Lover of the arts: Catch Osaka's traditional puppetry at the National Bunraku Theater.

Distinctive dish:

Okonomiyaki is a savory pancake with fillings that may include shrimp, pork and squid.

Classic drinks: Try various sakes at microbars inside the Misono Building.

Notable restaurants: Fujiya 1935 is a modernized version of a traditional

family eatery. Endo Sushi is a popular seafood spot at Osaka Central Fish Market. Ishii, which opened in 2016, won its first Michelin star in 2017. Aozora Blue features housemade udon noodles and more.

How to sound like a local: Itadakimasu means something similar to bon appétit in Japanese.

Prime times: Spring for cherry blossoms, fall for foliage and mild weather.

Pro tip: Get a prepaid ICOCA card to move around by subway and train.

What to take home: Green tea, sake, cinnamon-tinged mochi, yukata (a light summer kimono).

Getting There: Earn or redeem Mileage Plan miles when visiting Osaka on Alaska Global Partner Japan Airlines (JAL), which connects the U.S. West Coast with destinations throughout Japan and Asia.





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Paris. The City of Light and romance-of glorious museums, grand boulevards and streetside boulangeries. Here, visitors can wonder at the sophistication and style of Parisian culture and enjoy interactions as classic and simple as purchasing a baguette at a market.

POPULAR ATTRACTIONS:

• The Eiffel Tower provides iconic views from its observation deck. • The Musée du Louvre is home to a giant art collection that includes the Mona Lisa. • The Cathédrale Notre-Dame de Paris was one of the world's first Gothic cathedrals.

LESSER-KNOWN:

• The Parc des Buttes-Chaumont is among the most beautiful and serene parks in Paris. • The Marché des Enfants Rouges in Le Marais is said to be the city's oldest covered market and has a host of ethnic cuisines. • Square Jehan-Rictus has a wall with tiles that say "I love you" in 311 languages.

WHERE TO GO IF YOU'RE A ...

• Romantic: The Eiffel Tower-but of course. Also, the Temple Romantique,

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Distinctive dishes: Coq au vin is a quintessential dinner entree; try it at La Jacobine on the Left Bank. Earlier in the day, try a croissant or baked ham-andcheese croque-monsieur.

Classic drink: The French 75, a Champagne cocktail, was named after a French gun used in World War I. Find this drink at Harry's New York Bar.

Notable restaurants: Jules Verne, on the second level of the Eiffel Tower, has sensational food and views-reserve far, far in advance. Benoit Paris, which first opened in 1912, still serves classic bistro dishes such as escargot. Chez La Vieille is a reinvented bistro that tackles classics with fresh vegetal brightness.

> Prime time: In early evening, bistros and cafes fill with happy people socializing after work.

What to take home: High-fashion apparel, jewelry, macarons, chocolates, antiquarian books.

• Family: The Bois de Boulogne has pony rides, puppet shows and more.

on an island in a lake in the Bois

de Vincennes. • Foodie:

Explore Champs-

Élysées-area back-

Michelin stars meet

• History buff: The

palace at Versailles,

outside Paris, is Louis

XIV's monument to opulence.

streets, where

bargain bistros.

• Lover of literature: Shakespeare and Company Paris has been a destination for writers and readers since 1951.

Getting There: Earn or redeem Mileage Plan miles flying to Paris on Alaska Global Partner Icelandairand enjoy a stopover in Iceland's capital of Reykjavík.



From top: Musée du Louvre, croissants and café au lait, Square Jehan-Rictus.

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Due in part to its distinctive position on the planet, New Zealand has an exotic allure. As the island nation's major metropolis, Auckland is well-sited for exhilarating adventures. The city possesses its own engaging culture and is also a launching point for explorations of New Zealand's famously varied terrain.

POPULAR ATTRACTIONS:

 Auckland War Memorial Museum has notable collections of art, natural history, and Māori and Pacific Island artifacts. • One Tree Hill is a volcanic peak with 360-degree views. • Visit Sky Tower to dine at its revolving restaurant and brave the Skywalk (wearing a harness) on the outer ledge of the structure, 630 feet up.

LESSER-KNOWN:

• Formerly industrial Silo Park is now a public space with outdoor concerts, play areas and markets—and views of Auckland Harbour Bridge.

· Waiheke Island, a short ferry ride from downtown, is a gourmet destination.

• Hike the Coast to Coast Walkway (about 10 miles) and you'll be able to say you crossed the country on foot.

WHERE TO GO IF YOU'RE A ...

- Romantic: Grab a picnic and head for Mount Eden, which has sweeping views.
- Foodie: Ponsonby Central (in the suburb of Ponsonby) is an upmarket converted warehouse with pop-up stalls and street food vendors. • History buff: The Auckland War Memorial Museum has exhibits detailing New Zealand's history. • Family: Kiwi birds and other native species await at the Auckland Zoo. • Lover of culture: ASB Waterfront Theatre showcases works by international and New Zealandbased playwrights.

How to sound like a local: Aotearoa or "Land of the Long White Cloud" is the Māori name for New "be well" in Māori.

Zealand. Kia ora is used as a greeting that means

MILEAGE PLAN PARTNER TRAVEL

Classic drink: Some of the world's best Sauvignon Blanc now comes from New Zealand. Get a taste at Wine Chambers.

Notable restaurants: Try Ostro in the harborfront Britomart area for superb oysters, lamb and other creative dishes with local ingredients. At industrial-chic Depot, chef Al Brown experiments with dishes such as hāpuku fish sliders and popcorn duck tongues.

Prime times: Auckland's outdoor spaces and views might be best appreciated in late morning or midday.

Team to cheer: The national rugby team, called the All Blacks for its defining uniform color, is the pride of New Zealand.

Memorable scenes: About two hours (or about 110 miles) south of Auckland is Hobbiton, the movie set immortalized by The Lord of the Rings and The Hobbit film series.



What to take home: Merino wool garments, Mānuka honey, New Zealand jade (aka pounamu or greenstone).

Getting There: Earn or redeem Mileage Plan miles flying to Auckland on Alaska Global Partner Qantas. With West Coast gateways in Los Angeles and San Francisco, Qantas also offers nonstop service from California to Australia.

From top: Auckland skyline, Ponsonby Central, a view from a pool on Waiheke Island.



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From top:

Il Duomo di

Milano, Navigli

canal district,

The Galleria

Emanuele II.

Vittorio



The first thing that comes to mind when someone says "Milan" is likely to be "fashion." And, since the city is one of the main style centers of the world, this is as it should be. Yet there is more to Milan than runways and fashion weeks.

POPULAR ATTRACTIONS:

• Milan's signature 14th century cathedral, Il Duomo di Milano, is filled with majestic marble and took about five centuries to construct. • Teatro alla Scala, Milan's ornate 1778 opera and ballet building, is one of the most famous houses of opera in the world.

• The Galleria Vittorio Emanuele II,

arguably the original upscale shopping mall, opened in 1867.

LESSER-KNOWN:

• Bar Luce, a whimsical pastel-tinted bar/ restaurant/patisserie designed by movie director Wes Anderson, is nestled in the famed art complex Fondazione Prada.

• Cinque Vie is a historical district where five ancient streets meet.

• Museo del Novecento primarily features 20th century Italian art, on Piazza del Duomo.

WHERE TO GO IF YOU'RE A ...

- Romantic: The Navigli canal district, in the old part of the city, has art galleries, canal-side cafes, bars and restaurants. • Foodie: Eataly Milan Smeraldo is a multistory market with many delicacies. • History buff: Piazza del Duomo, the iconic historical and modern public square, has centuries-old buildings.
- Fashionista: Milan Fashion Week is held twice a year.

Distinctive dish: Risotto alla Milanese (rice with saffron and bone marrow).

> Classic drink: The Negroni Sbagliato, a spin on the famous drink, with sparkling wine instead of gin, was reportedly "invented" by mistake at the popular Bar Basso. Sbagliato is Italian

for "mistaken."

Notable restaurants: Visit Tagiura di Angelotti Rino for fresh takes on traditional dishes. Ristorante Biffi is a casual place located in the Galleria since 1867.

What to take home: Designer bags, espresso beans, panettone sweet bread (near the holiday season).

Getting There: Travel via Alaska Global Partner Emirates directly to Milan from New York's John F. Kennedy International Airport. Emirates provides world-class service to Dubai and more than 150 destinations across six continents.



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Buenos Aires

This classy capital city, known for its distinctive tango, delicious foods, vibrant wines and stately monuments, has a style, culture and flair all its own.

POPULAR ATTRACTIONS:

- La Boca, a neighborhood filled with colorful houses and the history of the city's working class, is touted as one of the birthplaces of tango. The Museo Nacional de Bellas Artes contains many key works by Argentine artists.
- The ornately painted, carved and tiled
 Teatro Colón is a prominent venue for orchestra, opera and ballet performances.

LESSER-KNOWN:

- Usina del Arte, a power plant turned arts center, offers concerts, exhibits and multidisciplinary events. Hop on the vintage tram in the Caballito area.
- Explore Reserva Ecológica Costanera Sur, an ecological reserve on reclaimed land near gleaming skyscrapers.

WHERE TO GO IF YOU'RE A ...

• Romantic: Get tickets for a Rojo
Tango show, which features top performers. • Foodie: The 19th century
San Telmo Market occupies a city block



Above: A street scene in La Boca. Right: Alfajores. and is a buffet of fresh foods. • History buff: The Plaza de Mayo is the site of significant historical events. • Family: The Museo de los Niños Abasto is an interactive venue that lets kids play at adult jobs. • Lover of literature: El Ateneo Grand Splendid is a gorgeous

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bookshop built within an enormous, nearly 100-year-old theater.

How to sound like a local: In Buenos Aires, *piola* means "cool." If anyone asks how you are, say, "Todo piola."

Distinctive dish: Steak is a mainstay of Argentine cuisine.

Notable restaurants:
Güerrin, an Argentinestyle pizzeria, is a local
institution. Nuestra Parrilla
is masterful with the *choripán*,
Argentina's sausage sandwich.

Prime times: During Argentina's spring (from September through November), jacaranda trees are gloriously in bloom.

Local music/dance: Tango, with its passionate dance and music, is practically synonymous with Argentina.

What to take home: Leather goods, dulce de leche, alfajores (cookies with dulce de leche),

silver, Malbec wine. ⊀

Section contributors include David Armstrong, Eoin Higgins, Chaney Kwak, Eric Lucas, Jill K. Robinson and Margo Vansynghel.

Getting There: Earn and redeem miles on travels to Buenos Aires via LATAM, which serves cities throughout South America, including in Argentina, Chile, Colombia and Peru.

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OUTDOOR ADVENTURES IN SAN FRANCISCO

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I PUMP THE BRAKES OF MY MOUNTAIN BIKE

when a tawny young deer wanders onto the narrow dirt trail a few yards in front of me. I use the moment to stretch my fingers, admire the grace of the ambling deer, and soak in the view from a magnificent ridgeline overlooking the turquoise waters of San Pablo Bay.

I'm only about 25 miles north of downtown San Francisco, at China Camp State Park in Marin County, reached via the Golden Gate Bridge, but these rolling hills filled with wildlife-deer, coyotes, hawks, wild turkeys and plenty of lizardsmake me feel like I've left the city very far behind.

I've ascended about 700 feet above the bay with my guide, Mark Baeder. He's the founder of Mountain Bike SF, and runs half- and full-day group and private tours throughout Marin County. I'm on a half-day version, riding China Camp State Park's Bayview, Oak Ridge and Shoreline trails. We pedal about 8 miles of singletrack in 2.5 hours. If you're into mountain biking or curious about mountain biking, this is the place to do it, and Mark is the guy to do it with. Marin County is generally regarded as the birthplace of the modern sport of mountain biking, according to the Marin Museum of Bicycling (whose docents include Mountain Bike Hall of Fame inductees), and the county boasts some of the best and most beautiful trails in the Bay Area.

Mountain Bike SF operates tours for all levels. I am most definitely a beginner, and Mark promises to go slow. "Keep your eyes ahead of you," he advises me gently as I skid into a hairpin turn. "If you look where you want to go, you'll get there."

I laugh a little and tell him that's good advice for life in addition to mountain biking. "You're like the Buddha of mountain biking," I add.

When I get tired, I pretend I need to take some pictures of the view. Mark acts like he believes me, and lets me rest in the shade of a gnarled old oak as I breathe in the scent of the salt marshes below. A muddy lizard skitters over my sneaker and flicks its tongue at me.

A little while later, Mark calls for another welcome stop, in order to snap pictures of me looking like a pro, he says. He knows exactly the right place to stand to make me look like an expert, and my Instagram self is eternally grateful to him.

It's a blue-sky morning, perfect for a gorgeous photo, but in San Francisco, you can be outside almost every day if you're dressed properly-layers with an easily accessible raincoat. And the city offers the best of both worlds: exceptional cuisine and urban amenities complementing the ability to seamlessly transition into an adventure in nature. You can

spend the morning mountain biking and the evening in a Michelinstarred restaurant. It doesn't matter whether you're an experienced outdoors person or just dipping your toes in adventurous watersthere's always plenty to do in the Bay Area, from mountain biking to kayaking, from hiking to archery.

KAYAKING MCCOVEY COVE

On another sunny day, I find myself kayaking right past a lazy sea lion. The Bay Bridge (you know: that other bridge in San Francisco, the white one that goes to Oakland) is behind me as I paddle as fast as I can toward the AT&T Park baseball stadium, before a Giants game starts. It takes about 25 minutes to paddle the half-mile south from Pier 40, where I rented my kayak. I wave to sailboat tailgaters (yes, people in San Francisco tailgate on sailboats) before hanging a right into McCovey Cove just in time to hear the final chorus of The Star-Spangled Banner.

It doesn't matter that I can't see



Facing page: A scenic trail in China Camp State Park. This page: McCovey Cove, near AT&T Park.



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>>> Visitors enjoy a viewpoint at Angel Island, top, which can be reached via ferry service, shown above, from San Francisco.

into the stadium from the water. The excitement spills out over the right field wall, along a public waterfront promenade where people are peering through archways into the stadium. For those of us in the cove who can't see the players, boats blast the game on radios to keep everyone caught up.

"Play ball!" I yell as I position my kayak between a boat named The Barbary Ghost and a fellow kayaker with a traffic-cone-orange T-shirt that reads, "McCovey Cove Dave."

I take another look at the man in the T-shirt. He's tan, ruggedly handsome and very gregarious. I quickly learn that his real name is Dave Edlund, and he's nabbed the majority of home run balls—36 as of the start of today's game—that have been hit into the bay in the

past 10 years. Dave, a retired tech executive, comes armed with two things: a radio to listen to the game announcers and the competitive spirit needed to be the first kayaker to reach and scoop from the water (Dave uses his hands) a home run ball batted out of the stadium and into the cove.

I try to catch Dave's attention again during the game, but he's very busy. Scooter Gennett is at bat, and Dave needs to keep his eyes in the air. It could be time for No. 37.

Kayaking into McCovey for a baseball game is something of a San Francisco tradition, and City Kayak at Pier 40 offers self-guided kayak rentals for intermediate and experienced paddlers, and two-hour Splash Hit guided tours on select game days for beginners to enjoy part of the ballgame.

The company also takes beginners on three-hour downtown kayak trips with views of landmarks such as the Ferry Building on the way to McCovey Cove.

From the cove, the tour goes southwest under the Lefty O'Doul drawbridge to see the houseboats of Mission Creek. It's the perfect trip for those who have never kayaked

before and for families with kids.

For more-experienced kayakers, City Kayak leads a half-day trip across San Francisco Bay to Alcatraz, depending on the currents and weather conditions. Not only does this 1.5-mile excursion give you a spectacular view of Alcatraz from the water, but you'll get a look at historical ships such as an 1891 schooner at Hyde Street Pier, and as you paddle into the open part of the bay, you'll have an impressive view of the Golden Gate Bridge.

HIKING ANGEL ISLAND

I'm always surprised when I encounter someone who has lived in San Francisco for most of their adult life and yet has never ventured north across the bay to Angel Island. They all make excuses. They say they didn't know it was open to the public. I tell them that it's actually a state park. They say they didn't know it was there. Well, the brass-colored peak of Mount Livermore is hard to miss while you're driving across the Golden Gate Bridge or strolling along Fisherman's Wharf. They say they don't know how to get there without their own boat. The Blue & Gold Fleet ferry takes passengers to the island



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The archery range at Golden Gate Park is located in a lovely meadow.

up to three times a day (service dates/times vary seasonally).

I try to regularly make it to the park for outdoor recreation, or a snack at the Angel Island Cafe and Cantina, which is typically open March through October. The cafe provides a stellar view of the sailboats and bay at Ayala Cove, and the menu ranges from ceviche to the Cove Burger (including bacon, grilled onions, provolone cheese and a special sauce), which can be paired with a California craft beer such as a Lagunitas IPA.

Angel Island is full of adventures, but my favorite thing to do on the island is simple: I love to hike there. Starting just past the ferry dock, three trails are available for different levels of hikers. All three of these trails will give you incredible views of the bay, including the Marin Headlands, Mount Tamalpais, Alcatraz and the Golden Gate Bridge.

The Perimeter Road (open to hikers, bicyclists and park vehicles, but no private vehicles, and with a speed limit of 15 mph) is the easiest walk, at about 5 miles in a loop around the island. Bikes, including electric bikes, are available for rent from the Angel Island Company bike shed near the ferry landing. The climb is gradual, with just a 200-foot elevation gain. It's easy to forget that you're close to the San Francisco city limits until you come around a bend and glance to the south to take in the gleaming skyline.

Keep a careful eye on the water between the island and the Golden Gate Bridge as you meander down the path. Harbor seals might peek

MORE ADVENTURES

- Bouldering Glen Canyon: Experienced rock enthusiasts shouldn't miss a chance to boulder in Glen Canyon (sfrecpark.org/ destination/glen-park), a sprawling urban canyon filled with native vegetation. There are plenty of easier routes, as well as more-challenging routes around the canyon's crags. You can also get in a nice approximately 2-mile hike on the Creeks to Peaks Trail prior to doing a bit of scrambling.
- . Kiteboarding the Bay: If you have two or three days in the city and you want to take advantage of the wind and waves, the Kite415 kiteboarding school (kite415.com) offers a beginner's course with land and



water lessons to get you up on a board. Rock Climbing Beaver Street Wall: Climbers will want to bring their top rope gear and check out the Beaver Street Wall in Corona Heights Park in the heart of the

- city's Castro District. Not for the fainthearted or novices, this 5.9 to 5.12 difficulty, 45-foot-tall cliff is a fairly technical climb for advanced climbers. However, spectators are welcome, and watching the action just might prompt you to take an indoor climbing lesson at the Mission Cliffs climbing gym a few miles from here.
- SUP at Pier 40: Take a scenic glide to see the San Francisco skyline and get a full-body cardio workout with a standup paddleboarding adventure straight off Pier 40 along the Embarcadero. For newcomers to paddleboarding, City Kayak (citykayak.com) offers introductory lessons. Check the website for dates and times. —J.P.





>>> Youngsters practice at the Golden Gate Park Archery Range.

their heads up to cast a flirty glance at you.

And also look down around the path itself. One of the best-kept secrets on the island is usually right beneath your feet. If you're lucky, you might spot the elusive Angel Island mole, a subspecies of mole found only out here, or you

might notice the little hills the moles make.

Don't worry if you have a family member or friend who isn't into doing the walk. Angel Island Company also offers a Segway tour and an open-air tram tour, both along the Perimeter Road.

Intermediate and experienced hikers might choose the Sunset Trail (2 miles and 800 feet of elevation gain) or the North Ridge Trail (also 2 miles and 800 feet of elevation gain) to the top of Mount Livermore. Both hikes typically take a couple of hours. You can combine them in a loop for a little more variety.

The peak's summit has picnic tables perfect for taking in the view while you enjoy a lunch, with bottled wine, that was prepared to go by Angel Island Cafe.

For an overnight stay, you can reserve one of the island's 10 campsites via reservecalifornia.com. It's recommended to book six months ahead for Saturdays and for all days when school is out.

ARCHERY IN GOLDEN GATE PARK

Just a couple of blocks from the ocean, so close to the sea that a breeze will blow the smell of briny water toward you, is a tranquil meadow with nine archery targets.

This is the archery field located right in Golden Gate Park. The park archery range is BYOB (bring your own bow). You can rent equipment, including a bow, six arrows, an arm



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TO ME, THE RANGE LOOKS LIKE SOMETHING OUT OF THE HUNGER GAMES. I CHAT WITH SPORTY LOCAL YOUNGSTERS TAKING TARGET PRACTICE THERE ON A SATURDAY MORNING.

guard and a hip quiver, from the San Francisco Archery Pro Shop, just 10 short and very walkable blocks away, on Balboa Street. The shop also offers private lessons by appointment, with equipment provided, at the Golden Gate Park range.

To me, the range looks like something out of *The Hunger* Games. I chat with sporty local youngsters taking target practice there on a Saturday morning. "I started archery after reading *The*

Hunger Games," one preteen girl, in a thick Katniss-style braid, tells me as she expertly aims her arrow at the bull's-eye. "I'm very good now."

Before or after letting arrows fly, you can send golf balls soaring on the park's nine-hole course, tucked among cypress trees, just a few blocks from the archery range. The standard weekend rate has been \$23, and with club rental for \$15, although the rates are scheduled to increase this summer.

The park's many outdoor attrac-

tions, complementing cultural sites such as the de Young Museum and the California Academy of Sciences, also include gardens and casting pools. The Golden Gate Angling and Casting Club offers a free public casting clinic, with loaner rod provided, the second Saturday of each month. In addition, rentals of rowboats, electric boats and pedal boats are available at Stow Lake, one of the park's 10 lakes.

Jo Piazza is a Bay Area freelance writer and best-selling book author. For more about San Franciscoarea recreation, see sftravel.com.

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TOURING CLASSIC PORTLAND

A few top locations in the City of Roses By Eileen Garvin

WHETHER YOU ARE ADMIRING THE

views of Mount Hood from the International Rose Test Garden, playing in the coastal surf, or sipping an award-winning Pinot Noir in the Willamette Valley, touring Oregon is a special experience. This diverse land offers a variety of delights, from exploring

the Newberry National Volcanic Monument outside of Bend to riding the rapids of Southern Oregon's Rogue River. It is also known for its quality wines and craft breweries.

The following are some of the classic spots in Oregon's urban center: the city of Portland.

WASHINGTON PARK

Nestled in the hills west of downtown Portland, Washington Park is a verdant oasis and home to some of the city's most beloved attractions.

The park's more than 400 acres include Hoyt Arboretum with 12 miles of trails and more than 2,300 species of plants from around the world. It also is home to the International Rose Test Garden, featuring a fantastic collection of more than 10,000 rose plants. The park's Portland Japanese Gardens highlights eight distinct and beautiful green spaces in its meticulously designed 12 acres, which also include an authentic Japanese teahouse.

Visitors will find the Oregon Zoo, which houses nearly 2,700 animals, and the World Forestry Center, where visitors can learn about the forest systems of the Pacific Northwest.

In addition, the park is known for its breathtaking views of the city of Portland and Mount Hood rising to the east. Washington Park is accessible by car, bike, trail, shuttle and MAX light rail (explorewashingtonpark.org).

PORTLAND SATURDAY MARKET

If you're visiting Portland on a weekend, be sure to stop by the Portland Saturday Market (open on Sundays, too), one of my favorite Portland experiences and a delightful immersion into the local arts-and-crafts scene. Celebrating its 45th year, the market is located at Governor Tom McCall Waterfront Park, along the Willamette River, and is one of the largest continually operating open-air arts-and-crafts markets in the country. The market boasts more than 250 Portland vendors each week, from March through December 24 (portlandsaturdaymarket.com).

POWELL'S CITY OF BOOKS

The entryway at legendary Powell's City of Books is one of my favorite sights: a wall of shelves and nearby curated table displays offering the latest and greatest choices in fiction and nonfiction. You'll want to stay for hours in this Pearl District landmark, which opened in 1971 and bills itself as the largest independent new and used bookstore in the world.

This month, Jeopardy!



champion Ken Jennings will talk about his new book, Planet Funny, on August 14; and author Patrick deWitt, who was shortlisted for the 2011 Man Booker Prize, reads from his new novel, French Exit, on August 28. You can check the calendar at powells.com to see all the literary luminaries stopping at the store.

PORTLAND'S CENTERS FOR THE ARTS

A collection of five performing spaces, called Portland'5, presents more than 1,000 shows each year. The facilities include the Brunish, Newmark and Winningstad theaters, which are located in the Antoinette Hatfield Hall, the Keller Auditorium and the famed Arlene

From top: Portland Saturday Market features more than 250 booths with produce and other items each week. The International Rose Test Garden in Washington Park offers an amazing variety of blooms from more than 10,000 rose plants.



Schnitzer Concert Hall.

Some scheduled shows include the Keller Auditorium presenting The Phantom of the Opera, through August 5, as well as the comedy and magic duo Penn & Teller on September 14. The composer David Foster is at the Newmark Theatre on August 13.

The Antoinette Hatfield Hall will feature the Summer Arts on Main and Noontime Showcase each Wednesday at noon. The event features music and art activities in front of the hall.

The Arlene Schnitzer Concert Hall, known for its large marquee that includes the famous "Portland" sign, is home to the Oregon Symphony. September 7 through 9, the symphony will perform the score to Star Wars: Episode IV, A New Hope, while the movie is shown. Folk legend John Prine plays the Schnitzer September 21, and comedian Lily Tomlin performs September 22.

The Winningstad Theatre presents multitalented cellist Gabriel Royal on September 29, and check website calendars for activities at the Brunish Theatre (portland5.com).







DOWNTOWN FOOD AND DRINK

An early embracer of the foodcart scene, Portland is home to more than 500 restaurants on wheels. The city offers various locations to enjoy the cart experience, including between Southwest Ninth and 10th avenues and Southwest Alder and Washington streets, where you'll find more than 60 carts offering food that ranges from Korean to Thai, Egyptian to Vietnamese. A full listing of carts around town is at foodcartsportland.com.

Portland is also famous for its beer culture, with more than 100 craft breweries in the metropolitan area. Stop in at Bridgeport Brewing Company to get a taste of one of the pioneers of the local craft brew revolution. Enjoy one of its many types of beers and its hearty menu of soups, salads and sandwiches. For information on Portland breweries, visit the website portlandbeer.org. For breweries specifically in Eastern Portland, visit pdxaletrails.com.

OTHER POPULAR ATTRACTIONS Forest Park: One of the largest urban parks in the U.S., the green

acres in northwest Portland. Lan Su Chinese Garden: Located in the Old Town Chinatown district, the serene garden has pavilions and a small lake and a teahouse (lansugarden.org).

Oregon Museum of Science and Industry: Families enjoy this interactive museum, which has a planetarium, a large-screen theater and a variety of exhibits, including "Robot Revolution," through September 3 (omsi.edu). Portland Art Museum: The oldest art museum in the Pacific Northwest, the facility has a variety of American, European and Japanese works, as well as an extensive Native American gallery, with more than 5,000 pieces of art (portlandartmuseum.org).

Willamette River excursions:

A variety of outfitters offer trips ranging from dinner cruises with Portland Spirit (portlandspirit. com) to fast-paced trips with Willamette Jet Boats (willamettejet.com). ⊀

Eileen Garvin writes from Hood River.

Alaska Airlines (alaskaair.com) serves Portland daily.

Top left: The Arlene Schnitzer Concert Hall is home of the Oregon Symphony and boasts the iconic "Portland" sign in its marquee. Above: Portland's Bridgeport Brewing Company was one of the city's earliest local craft brewers.

Below: Legendary Powell's City of Books describes itself as the largest used and new bookstore in the world.



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OREGON

FRESH COASTAL FAVORITES

New looks for some popular attractions By Gary Hayes

THE OREGON COAST OFFERS

more than 360 miles of enchanting attractions. Whether it's playing in the surf at Cannon Beach, visiting the Sea Lion Caves near Florence or hiking the trails on Cascade Head, there is always something new to discover. Below are a few of the sights visitors will find at some of the area's most popular attractions.

OREGON COAST AQUARIUM

The Newport aquarium's newest exhibit, "Big Bites," features live displays of marine creatures that have strange and unique feeding adaptations.

Some of the creatures on display use daggerlike teeth to consume their prey in the blink of an eye, while others take the concept of roughage to a new level and make meals out of hard coral. Piranha, Goliath tigerfish and porcupinefish are a few of the fascinating creatures you'll meet.

The exhibit includes two elevated tanks, with viewing areas underneath, allowing kids a different perspective on the fish.

Another favorite of the aquarium's many exhibits is the "Passages of the Deep," which includes glass tunnels allowing visitors to see a nearly 360-degree view of three Oregon coast ocean habitats (aquarium.org).

SALISHAN RESORT

The Oregon coast's renowned resort, located about 6 miles south of Lincoln City, underwent a multimillion-dollar renovation to



its guestrooms in 2017. Salishan offers a variety of amenities, including championship golf, indoor tennis and luxury spa treatments. Guests can hike area trails, and rent bicycles, standup paddleboards and kayaks.

They also can enjoy new wellness programs such as sunrise yoga sessions, multi-sensory meditation programs in the forest, and Poses & Pints, which combines yoga with craft beer. In the evenings, enjoy s'mores and pours on the resort patio, where adults can pair the dessert treat with beer and wine (salishan.com).

TILLAMOOK CREAMERY

The creamery's more than

1 million yearly visitors will find a
new facility, with soaring rooflines,
expansive windows and new
outdoor areas.

The creamery, located just north of the town of Tillamook, features a larger cafe with an expanded menu that now includes local seafood and wood-fired pizzas. Visitors can also order Northwest wines and beers.

An outdoor covered dining patio is open year-round, and a larger ice cream counter offers seasonal outdoor service.

The facility also expanded the viewing areas for observing the creamery's cheese-making and packaging operations (tillamook.com).

★

Gary Hayes writes from the Oregon coast.

Alaska Airlines (alaskaair) offers daily service to Portland, Eugene and Medford, gateways to the Oregon coast.



From top: Cascade Head on the Oregon coast is a 270-acre preserve that offers breathtaking views and great hiking. The cute porcupinefish is one of the creatures on display in Oregon Coast Aquarium's "Big Bites" exhibit.



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WILLAMETTE VALLEY GETAWAYS

Outdoor activities in Oregon's wine country By Danielle Centoni

IN THE KITCHEN OF SOKOL

Blosser's airy tasting room, chef Henry Kibit leans intently over a plate, meticulously arranging the first dish of our multicourse lunch made from ingredients he harvested from the property's garden. Kibit, who honed his craft in notable Portland restaurants such as The Fireside and Noble Rot, is preparing lunch for eight of us who are sitting at the tasting room counter in front of him, sipping

wines and eagerly watching as the elegant plates take shape.

Sokol Blosser's Farm & Forage lunches are part of a trend of Willamette Valley wineries offering sophisticated, chef-driven meals made to highlight the winery's latest vintages. It seems that as the valley's reputation as a world-class wine destination has grown (Wine Enthusiast magazine named it Wine Region of the Year in 2016), so have its attractions.

The Willamette Valley runs about 150 miles from Portland to the Calapooya Mountains southeast of Eugene, and sits between the Cascade Range to the east and the Oregon Coast Range to the west. Visitors to this area are not only thirsting for award-winning wines from the region's more than 550 wineries, they're also hungry for a distinctly Oregon experience, and Willamette Valley wine country is more than happy to oblige.

A group of friends picnic at the Brick House Vineyard, near the Willamette Valley town of Dundee.

This is a place where you can enjoy wine-tasting excursions and also experience outdoor adventures, where you can get a taste of Oregon's renowned food-and-drink scene while also discovering family-friendly local attractions.

One of my favorite examples is the town of McMinnville, located about 40 miles southwest of Portland. Just outside of town are the fascinating Evergreen Aviation and Space Museum and the fun Wings and Waves indoor water park next door. The aviation museum includes such famous aircraft as Howard Hughes' Flying Boat H-4 Spruce Goose, one of the largest planes ever built, and the SR-71 Blackbird, one of the world's fastest aircraft, which reached speeds of more than 2,000 mph.

Keeping with the aviation theme, the Wings and Waves Waterpark offers four waterslides that begin inside an actual Boeing 747, stationed on the roof of the water park, and wind into the building and down to pools below.

For wine lovers, there are more than 200 wineries within 20 miles of McMinnville, including Archery Summit, The Eyrie Vineyards and Yamhill Valley Vineyards.

For unique lodging options, visit The Vintages Trailer Resort, located about 7 miles northeast of McMinnville. It boasts fully renovated retro trailers, plus outdoor barbecues, fire pits, free use of bicycles and a swimming pool. In McMinnville, there is the Atticus Hotel, a 36-room boutique hotel that prides itself on sourcing every detail locally, from the sofas to the artwork to the custommade soap.

To tour some of the region's top wineries, try riding the NW Wine Shuttle, the area's first hop-on, hop-off wine bus. A group of shuttles make stops at 13 wineries in the Dundee Hills area

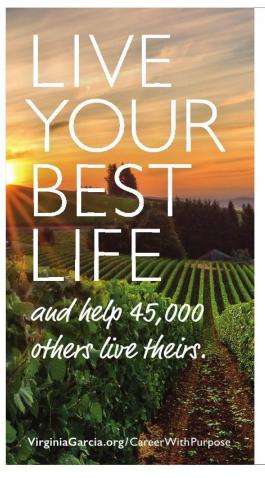
every 30 minutes. The shuttles pick up riders in McMinnville, in Dundee, at The Vintages Trailer Resort, and even in Portland.

The southern section of the valley includes the college town of Corvallis, home to Oregon State University. The city is known for its variety of hiking and biking trails, and various breweries and nearby wineries.

Northeast of Corvallis is the quaint town of Albany, where you'll find the Albany Historic Carousel & Museum. Take a ride on the carousel and marvel at the 52 carousel animals that were hand carved by local volunteers. If you fancy spending the night, book a room at The Hanson Courtry Inn, a charming bed and break-

fast located on 6 acres of land just outside of town. About 10 miles south of Corvallis is the William L. Finley National Wildlife Refuge, which has 12 miles of trails and is home to a variety of animals, such as Roosevelt elk and more than 200 species of birds.

About 50 miles south of Corvallis is Eugene, home to the University of Oregon and known as TrackTown USA because of its long history as a center for U.S. track and field events. Here, you'll find both award-winning craft beer as well as wines, and you're even closer to some of Oregon's top outdoor destinations, such as hiking along the McKenzie River and sandboarding in the Oregon Dunes National Recreation Area.



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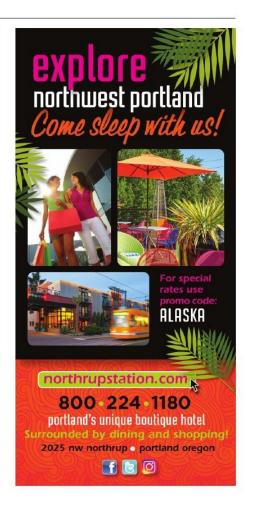
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OREGON

Just east of Eugene is Springfield, which locals believe is the namesake for the fictional hometown on The Simpsons TV program. For the 25th anniversary of the show, creator and Portland native Matt Groening collaborated with the city to create "The Official Simpsons Mural," which is painted on the side of the Emerald Art Center.

From Springfield, travel east on the scenic McKenzie Highway for about 60 miles into the Cascade Range to reach the McKenzie River National Recreation Trail. The 26.5-mile-long trail passes by waterfalls, lakes, lava fields and forests. Just a few miles farther east on the highway is Belknap Hot Springs, Lodge and Gardens. You can visit the lodge and soak in hot springs pools for a small fee.

When you get back to Eugene and Springfield, take a tour of the six wineries in the Eugene Urban Wine Circuit: Eugene Wine Cellars, J. Scott Cellars, Territorial Vineyards & Wine Company, Capitello Wines, Noble Estate Vineyard & Winery and The Oregon Wine Lab, which features wines by small-batch producers, including Stanton Vineyards. The Lab even has its own in-house brand, William Rose. If you prefer beer, there are more than 20 breweries and brewpubs in the area, including Eugene's Ninkasi Brewing Company and Springfield's Plank Town Brewery Company.

For live music, Eugene's Hult Center for the Performing Arts features a free "Party on the Plaza" concert every Thursday night in August. You can also visit Eugene's Sarver Winery, which offers live music every Friday and most Saturdays this month. Have a picnic while listening to the music and taking in the views. It's an ideal way to spend an evening in Oregon wine country. ⊀

Danielle Centoni writes from Portland.

Alaska Airlines (alaskaair.com) offers daily service to Eugene and Portland.



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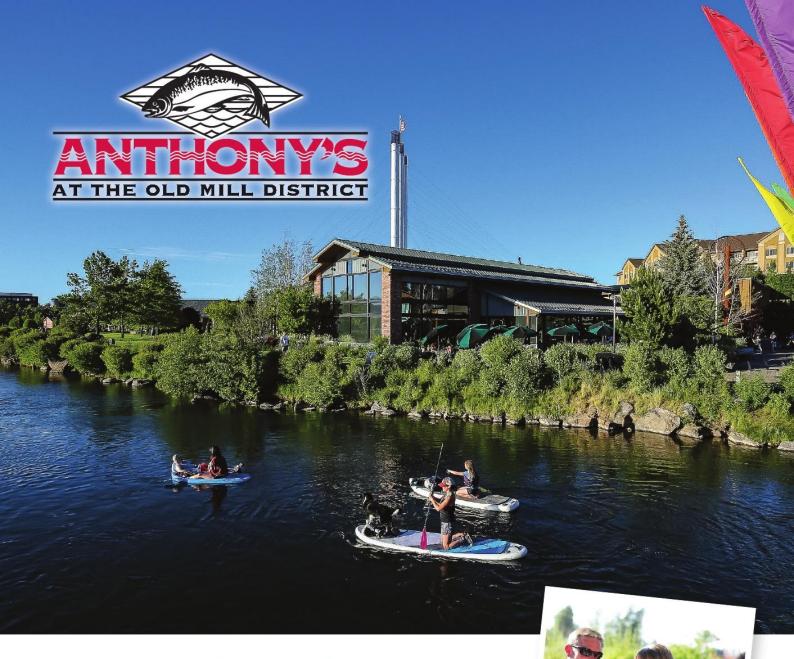
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OREGON

CENTRAL OREGON'S HIGH-COUNTRY EXPERIENCES

Natural wonders in the Redmond and Bend area By Tim Neville

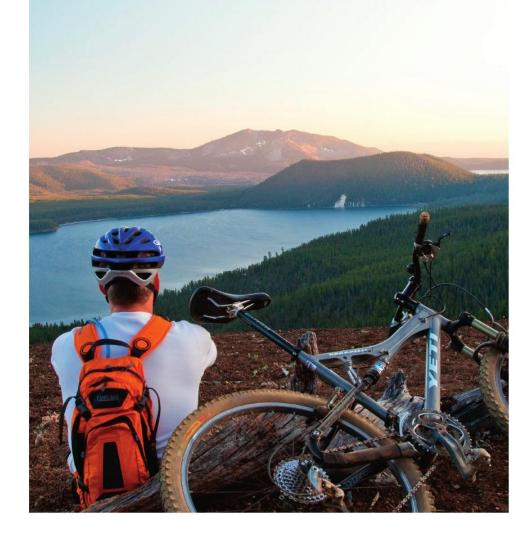
LATE SUMMER AND EARLY FALL

are special times for playing in the wild around Bend. The creeks gurgle thirstily with the last of the snowmelt, and the sky is cobalt blue. The Cascade Range High Country is at its best this time of year, and, as always, it's best enjoyed in hiking boots.

My go-to place, the Fall Creek Trail, sits just off the Cascade Lakes Scenic Byway near Mount Bachelor, about 25 miles southwest of Bend. The wide path runs near waterfalls and around hemlock groves for about 4 miles before reaching Green Lakes, a series of ponds nestled between two high peaks. A woody peninsula pokes into the largest pond. The spot is so enchanting that every time I visit, I wish I'd come sooner.

I enjoy walking these paths, often with my wife, Heidi, and our 9-year-old daughter, Evie. And the late-summer, early-fall season is my favorite time to be there. The light tumbles through the pines with a little less might and a lot more gold. It's time to get the most out of summer, ticking off all the things you want to do as the season fades to fall.

For me, that means sinking a chair in the sand at East Lake.
Along with its sister, Paulina Lake, to the west, East Lake sits at an elevation of about 6,400 feet.
Together they form the basin of a 13-mile-wide caldera surrounded by steep and dramatic peaks. The caldera is the centerpiece of the 54,000-acre Newberry National



Volcanic Monument, and is located about 40 miles south of Bend. You can fish for trout, mountain bike 21 miles around the caldera rim and swim in the bracing waters. The 5-mile roundtrip hike up Cinder Hill, a high point on the northeast side of the lake, offers sweeping views of East Lake and 7,985-foot Paulina Peak.

On the way back to Bend, I like

to stop at the High Desert Museum, which combines regional wildlife, culture and art to enliven the local landscape and its history. Permanent exhibits include "Spirit of the West," which offers insights into aspects of living in the high desert. Current traveling exhibits include "Ascent: Climbing Explored," through September 9, which illuminates the history of A variety of hiking and mountain biking trails are located near Paulina Lake, in Newberry National Volcanic Monument.

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DESCHUTES COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS

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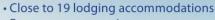
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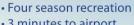
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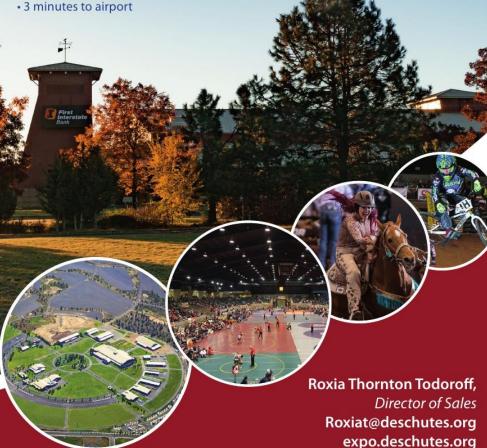
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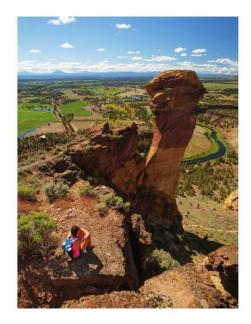






Deschutes County Fair & Expo Center

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Above: The formation known as Monkey Face is a popular climbing destination in Smith Rock State Park.
Top right: Redmond's Wild Ride Brewing is one of the many excellent craft breweries found in the Redmond/Bend area.

Below right: Cycle Pub bike tours in Bend use passenger pedal power to visit area breweries while sipping beers along the way. climbing and mountaineering in the West.

On another day, we'll travel to Mount Bachelor, a 9,065-foot volcanic peak that rises to the southwest of Bend.

A chairlift from Bachelor's West Village takes visitors to the 7,775-foot level, where Pine Marten Lodge is located. You can enjoy the views, sip a glass of wine and have a brick-oven pizza at Scapolo's Bistro. The lodge also offers sunset dinners, Friday–Sunday through September 2.

Those looking for more adventure can lace up a pair of boots and climb the last 1,290 feet to the summit. In addition, mountain bikers have 13 miles of swooping downhill trails to ride, and disc golfers can play 18 holes as they work their way down from midmountain to West Village.

In September, the lifts will begin running only Friday through Sunday as the summer season winds down.

On cooler days I tend to go to Smith Rock State Park, located about 30 miles north of Bend. The summer sun cooks these rock faces, making them difficult to climb. However, the fall sun is more gentle. You can hike Misery Ridge, and watch climbers dangle off the jutting rock formation aptly named Monkey Face. You can linger in the dappled shade that falls on River Trail or hike in the sprawling Crooked River National Grassland to the north.

Heading back to Bend, I like to stop in downtown Redmond for pork carnitas at Diego's Spirited Kitchen. Another treat is the British-style watering hole Pig and Pound Public House. Chef Paul Mercer blends Central Oregon ingredients with British recipes to create a tiny pocket of transatlantic wonder: bangers and mash with local pork, and shepherd's pie with bison from Powell Butte Bison Ranch.

If you're in Redmond in early August, visit the Deschutes County Fair & Expo Center for the county fair and rodeo.

When fall arrives in force, I hike back out to Green Lakes. The crowds are gone, the daylight dwindles and every trip feels like a bonus.

This time of year, Bend sheds its summer hustle and assumes a slower pace. Tables at Bend's Worthy Brewing Company and Redmond's Wild Ride Brewing are readily available.

I know this lull is only seasonal. Soon, we'll slide into winter and things will begin to pick up again. One of the best parts of fall is how ski season is just around the corner.

Tim Neville writes from Bend.

Alaska Airlines (alaskaair.com) offers daily service to the Redmond/Bend area.





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WILD AND SCENIC SOUTHERN OREGON

Rafting the Rogue River is just part of the region's allure By Susan G. Hauser

I PADDLE MY INFLATABLE

yellow kayak away from the shore where Grave Creek meets the Rogue River, about 30 miles northwest of Grants Pass, in Southern Oregon. Three other adventurous souls are also paddling kayaks, while the rest of our 12-person group is sitting on the rim of a large rubber raft.

We are on a three-day, twonight rafting and camping adventure that will take us down a 33.8-mile section of the river that is a designated free-flowing wild and scenic segment.

The Rogue's headwaters flow from the Cascade Range near Crater Lake, and the river meanders westward 215 miles to the ocean at the town of Gold Beach. It's been a while since I was last on this river, one of the original eight waterways named in the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act signed by President Lyndon Johnson in 1968. The act calls for the managing and safeguarding of certain free-flowing rivers for the enjoyment of future generations.

"Just like riding a bicycle," I tell myself as the inflatable kayak bobs toward the churning water of the first rapids. Muscle memory takes over as I whirl my paddle from side to side, leaning into each precarious roll of the little kayak. After that, the roar of Rainie Falls' rapids can be heard not far ahead. I follow the others along a less challenging route, the Fish Ladder, bumping and rolling down the

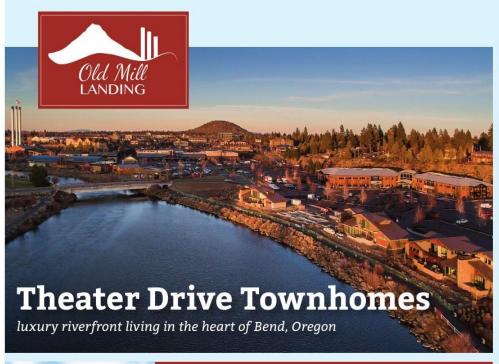
narrow channel's multiple drops. When I emerge into the main river—backward but still upright the raft paddlers cheer ... and I offer a sigh of relief.

It's an exhilarating way to begin a celebration of the 50th anniversary of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act. My trip is organized by rafting outfitter OARS and the advocacy group American Rivers, and includes representatives of five national and regional conservation organizations. We are floating what has become one of the more popular original rivers protected by the 1968 act. According to the Bureau of Land Management, which helps manage the Rogue's wild segments, permit applications for running these rapids

Above: Southern Oregon's Rogue River attracts whitewater rafters from around the world.

Below: The Rogue and Umpqua rivers are renowned for their excellent fishing.







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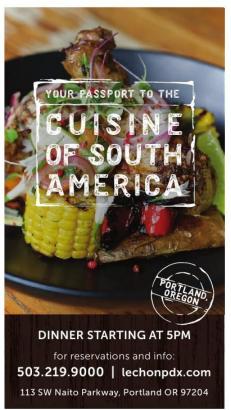
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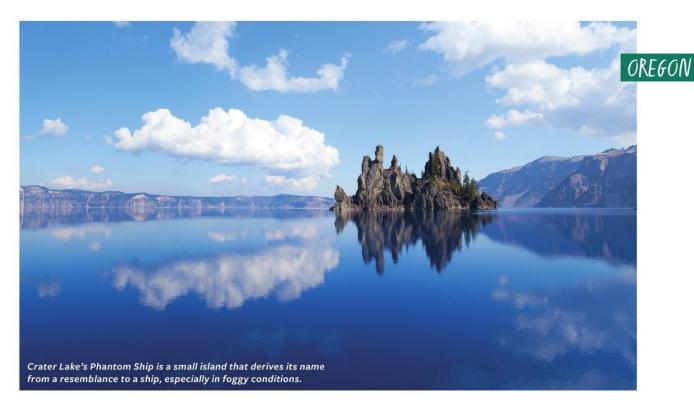
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pour in from around the world, but to keep the number of daily rafters at 210, only a fraction of the requests are granted.

As we float downstream, we occasionally see otters swimming at the river's edge and deer sipping the clear running water, as well as birds such as great blue herons and mergansers. We even spot a black bear wandering through the brush, and we gaze skyward as an osprey and a bald eagle fight in midair over possession of some of the river's ample salmon and steelhead. Such natural pleasures, including being

lulled to sleep each night by the soothing gurgle of the river, might just be old-timers' distant memories were it not for the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act.

The act protects a total of 12,734 miles of 208 rivers in 40 states and Puerto Rico. Oregon has 48 designated rivers, more than any other state. One of the purposes of our celebratory trip is to raise awareness of the 5,000 Miles of Wild Initiative, a bid for Congress to protect more sections of U.S. rivers.

According to the language of the original act, segments of

rivers may qualify for designation if they are free-flowing streams that are deemed either wild, or scenic, or recreational. They must also possess "outstandingly remarkable values" related to those three categories. A total of 84 miles of the Rogue River is protected under the law.

Farther downriver, the Rogue passes the cabin where author Zane Grey (1872–1939) wrote books and articles extolling the area's fishing. Grey later moved his fishing camp to the nearby North Umpqua River, which now also has sections that are protected under

the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act. Grey camped near the present-day Steamboat Inn, a favorite among outdoor enthusiasts.

On our final day on the river, the rafts and kayaks have slowed to a lazy downstream drift. As we float toward Foster Bar, our final takeout point, I'm already planning my next trip down the mighty Rogue River.

Susan G. Hauser writes from Portland.

Alaska Airlines (alaskaair.com) serves Medford daily.

OTHER ATTRACTIONS

• Ashland's Oregon Shakespeare Festival (osfashland.org): One of the region's most popular cultural attractions, the festival runs through October 28 this year. It offers world-class productions of Shakespeare's works, as well as contemporary plays and musicals. This year's lineup includes Shakespeare's Henry V, Othello and Romeo and Juliet, and Rodgers and Hammerstein's musical Oklahoma!.



• Crater Lake (nps.gov/crla): The stunningly blue lake in the heart of Crater Lake National Park features Crater Lake Lodge, and hiking or biking around the rim of the volcano's caldera. You can also hike into the caldera to reach the lake, where a tour boat takes passengers to cone-shaped Wizard Island.

• Medford (travelmedford.org): Long recognized as Oregon's fruit basket, Medford is home to the Harry & David company, which has delivered its famous fruit baskets since 1934. Take a tour of the company and visit its gift shop. Just 5 miles north of Medford is the Rogue Creamery (roguecreamery.com) in the town of Central Point. It offers an internationally famous selection of cheeses, including awardwinning blue cheeses.

• Roseburg (visitroseburg.com): This charming small town along the banks of the South Umpqua River is known as a center for outdoor adventure, ranging from rafting and kayaking to hiking along nearby trails. There also are more than 30 wineries in and around the town.—S.G.H.





I'm fairly adventurous when it comes to food. But on

that June evening in West Maui, I briefly hesitated at the sample of squid-ink spaetzle pasta in uni (sea urchin) emulsion, topped with charred he'e (octopus). That's a lot of adventure on one plate. But the Kapalua Wine & Food Festival is all about expanding horizons, so I dug in. Yes, the dish was meltingly delicious.

There were also lobster corndogs. And lychee sorbet and ginger-celery shave ice, easily two of the most refreshing palate-cleansers.

A bigger surprise, though: I learned about the latest Napa and Sonoma County vintages here, although I live in the San Francisco Bay Area, about 45 miles away from those renowned wine regions. The festival's vintners, chefs and sommeliers who poured tastes and dished out samples answered every question I asked. Of course, it's especially easy to be friendly when gazing over the Pacific from the light-festooned deck at The Ritz-Carlton, Kapalua.

Hawaiian festivals run the gamut from large to small, quirky to conventional. Whether you enjoy birding, hula, sci-fi, royal pageantry, whales or even Spam ... there's a festival fit for most travelers.

Here are some of Hawai'i's most fun, well-loved and popular celebrations, festivals, events and conventions, scattered throughout the lush Hawaiian Islands and across the next calendar year.

COMIC CON HONOLULU

0'AHU | AUG. 3-5, 2018

"All things nerdom" are celebrated here, as Comic Con states. Fans-often in costume-attend panels featuring celeb creators (Roy Thomas, Captain Marvel), actors (Katie Cassidy, Arrow), writers, video game artists and more. This year's convention also boasts one of Hawai'i's largest selections of tabletop games in 12,000 square feet, along with 8,000 square feet of video games. Whether dressed as your favorite superhero or in T-shirt and jeans, enjoy everything from a costume contest to gaming with fellow geeks (comicconhonolulu.com). P.S. If you miss this event, check out Honolulu's Amazing Comic Con Aloha, Aug. 24-26 (amazingcomicconaloha.com).

KAUAI COUNTY FARM BUREAU FAIR

KAUA'I | AUG. 16-19, 2018

At the 50th anniversary of the Garden Isle's annual farm fair, catch a comedy/hypnosis show while devouring a malasada, a deep-fried, sugar-coated take on the elephant ear. The festive whirl includes carnival rides, orchid-growing lessons, a petting zoo and 4-H livestock competitions. Entertainment includes the reggae band The Vitals 808, comedy by Da Braddahs, and a Flower and Fern Fashion Show, with contestants in botanical wear. Alaska Airlines is a sponsor (kauaifarmfair.org).



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DUKE'S OCEANFEST

0'AHU | AUG. 18-26, 2018

Canines navigate waves in the Going to the Dogs SurFur ComPETition, at this sea-lebration taking place along Honolulu's famed Waikīkī Beach. Human endeavors include surfboard water polo, beach volleyball tournaments and an ocean-mile swim. These surf-and-sand activities were favorites of Duke Kahanamoku, Hawai'i's legendary 20th century swimmer and Olympic medalist. The Oceanfest includes the Hawai'i Adaptive Surfing Championships, which draws more than 80 athletes from 15 countries, and includes categories for wounded warriors (military veterans), deaf individuals, visually impaired competitors and other surfboard athletes (dukesoceanfest.com).

ALOHA FESTIVALS

0'AHU | SEPT. 1-29, 2018

"No Ke Kai Kākou \bar{E} " ("We are of the sea") is this year's theme at this exuberant blend of Hawaiian art, culture, cuisine and music. The monthlong Honolulu festivities commence with a royal court donning bright yellow cloaks, helmets and other regalia to the music of traditional chants and hula dances. The merriment continues with mini musical groups at the kids' festival, or keiki hoʻolauleʻa. Lei vendors, plate lunches and hula hālau (hula schools) enliven the Waikīkī Ho'olaule'a block party. To cap off events, there's a Floral Parade, a processional pageant of marching bands, floats adorned with flowers, and horse riders wearing $p\bar{a}'\bar{u}$, long vibrant skirts crafted to flow regally to the ground (alohafestivals.com).









HAWAI'I ISLAND FESTIVAL OF BIRDS HAWAI'I ISLAND | SEPT. 14-17, 2018

On a guided festival trip, track the 'i'iwi (just named "Bird of the Year" by the American Birding Association) through the Hakalau rainforest, a lush home to rare, endemic Hawaiian plants and animals. Or take a Kona Coast boat excursion with an experienced birder who can point out pelagic treasures, such as a mottled petrel or a brown noddy. This year's avian extravaganza (based in the picturesque Keauhou Bay) focuses on endangered and rare birds such as the nēnē, the Hawaiian state bird. Morning larks can rise for daily 6 A.M. birding excursions or stay up to enjoy sunset at Brews, Birds & Binos, with a menu inspired by Pacific Rim street food. Alaska Airlines is a festival sponsor (birdfesthawaii.org).

MAUI UKULELE FESTIVAL MAUI | SEPT. 30, 2018

Bring a blanket or lawn chairs to the grassy, palm tree-dotted lawn of the Maui Arts & Cultural Center for island-style serenades. On stage, musicians may play pop, Hawaiian or jazz music on the stringed instrument first brought to Hawai'i by Portuguese immigrants. Festival attendees will have the chance to pluck a song at a free 'ukulele workshop for beginners. A lucky few may even score a 'ukulele door prize. Sister uke festivals are held on O'ahu, Kaua'i and Hawai'i Island (ukulelefestivalhawaii.org).

MAUI FAIR

MAUI | OCT. 4-7, 2018

Since 1916, the Maui Fair has been one of the Valley Isle's biggest and most festive events, drawing more than 100,000 locals and visitors annually. A special area, Pā Hale



Hawai'i, gives attendees the chance to try traditional Hawaiian activities (such as pounding taro into poi or weaving with hala leaves). Other attractions include a zero-gravity amusement-park ride and Maui's largest display of orchids at exotic Orchidland. The Maui Fire Department's Fried Rice Challenge joins the department's popular chili cook-off. Alaska Airlines is a

arade and Festiva

IMPROVAGANZA: THE HAWAI'I FESTIVAL OF IMPROV

sponsor (mauifair.com).

O'AHU | OCT. 4-7, 2018

Hawaiian actors will be joined by international and mainland pros to entertain with improv, an unscripted theater style where characters, dialogue and scenes are conceived on the spot. Among other offerings this year in the historic Kumu Kahua Theatre in Honolulu: A

New Zealand-based troupe will improvise a play in the style of Shakespeare, and a Portland team brings an off-the-cuff Star Trek parody to the stage

(improvaganza.com).

HONOLULU PRIDE PARADE AND FESTIVAL

O'AHU | OCT. 20, 2018

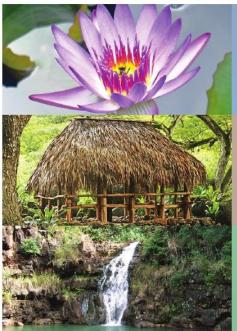
American Idol finalists Ada Vox and Jurnee will take the stage on October 20, capping off weeks of events and programs celebrating the

LGBTQ+ community. Enormous rainbow

flags will line Waikīkī neighborhood streets for two weeks filled with performance art, comedy shows, pride brunches, panel discussions and pool parties. On Oct. 20, the Honolulu Pride Parade will wind down central Kalākaua Avenue, while bars sling cocktails and cones of shave ice in rainbow hues. Alaska Airlines is a sponsor (hawaiilgbtlegacyfoundation.com).







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KONA COFFEE Cultural Festival

HAWAI'I ISLAND | NOV. 9-18, 2018 More than 50 events percolate around the coffee bean, which has sustained Kona's community for nearly 200 years. The festival begins with a colorful evening procession through the seaside town of Kailua, featuring glowing chochin paper lanterns and taiko drums. Festival attendees can enjoy a latte-foam art contest, Hawaiian craft workshops, and conversing with a costumed interpreter who demonstrates everyday coffee-farm tasks of yesteryear. Contemporary farm tours include Ueshime Coffee Company, where visitors can pick and process a small batch of coffee. Alaska Airlines is a sponsor (konacoffeefest.com).

WAIMEA OCEAN FILM FESTIVAL HAWAI'I ISLAND | JAN. 1-9, 2019

Enjoy water-themed films at stunning Kohala Coast resorts and in historic properties in the ranching town of Waimea. More than 60 award-winning films, guest speakers and special exhibits will surface here—cinematic topics range from local to international; reefs to sharks to surfers; conversation pieces concerning the environment to films of adventure and inspiration. Filmmakers will showcase work, discuss recent projects and offer breakfast talks. Alaska Airlines is a sponsor (waimeaoceanfilm.org).

MAUI WHALE FESTIVAL

MAUI | FEB. 1-28, 2019

Every February, Maui waters fill with migrating humpback whales,



which can often be spotted from shore. For a whale of a time, head for this fest, now in its 39th year of celebrating all things cetacean. Fin fans turn out for the Mā'alaea Harbor Party, along with a film festival, fun run and The Great Whale Count. (mauiwhalefestival.org).

WAIMEA TOWN CELEBRATION

KAUA'I | FEB. 16-24, 2019

Ready your spoons, potential ice cream-eating champs. This fest accommodates a variety of competitive streaks, from paddling in a Hawaiian canoe race to saddling up

for a traditional rodeo. Crowds show up for outdoor concerts, Hawaiian storytelling and hula performances. For foodies, the Kaua'i Cocktails and Cuisine event features Japanese taiko drumming, sushi and sashimi, plus samples of Japanese whisky, beer and sake (waimeatowncelebration.com).

KONA BREWERS FESTIVAL

HAWAI'I ISLAND | MARCH 9, 2019

On the spectacular oceanfront grounds of Kamakahonu Bay in historic Kailua Village, more than 40 local and mainland craft brewers will spotlight two different beers of their choosing. As a result, 80-plus liquid options will be offered to festival attendees, including on-trend tastes such as sour beers or jalpeñopopped brews. Not feeling hoppy? Try

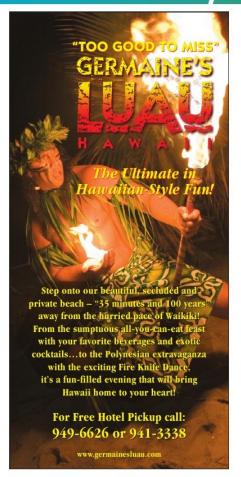
kombuchas, ciders and meads. Beverages will be carefully paired with Island-style bites, such as fried avocados, fresh poke and crab kamaboko cream-cheese wontons. Live music will be on tap, along with a Trash Fashion Show featuring unusual couture crafted from castoffs, such as an egg-carton hat and earrings made from banana leaves. Alaska Airlines is a sponsor (konabrewersfestival.com).

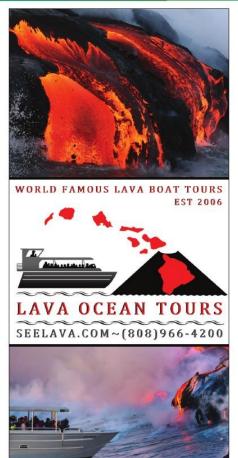


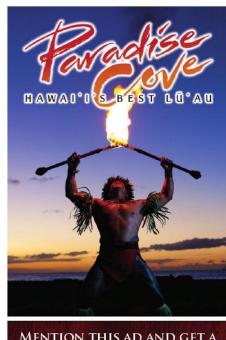
Waimea Ocean Film

Festival.

Island ACTIVITIES

















THE COLOR FESTIVAL HAWAII MAUI | APRIL 13, 2019

"You will not leave the festival looking the same as you arrived," says Dean Wong, director of Imua Family Services, which sponsors this colorfest. Originating in India, color festivals rejoice in spring's arrival—and new beginnings—as revelers throw a rainbow of cornstarch powders. Swirls of red, yellow and purple clouds brighten faces and T-shirts. The colorful toss follows an internationally inspired music and dance lineup; fest fare ranges from pizza slices to Indian curries to ice cream. Alaska Airlines is a sponsor (imuafamilyservices.org/colorfestival).

SPAM JAM 0'AHU | APRIL 27, 2019

Pick up a pair of Spam logo-emblazoned slippers or sunglasses at this celebration of the canned-meat staple. During World War II, surpluses of Spam were distributed to Hawaiian residents, resulting in a love affair continuing to this day. Waikīkī's Kalākaua Avenue hosts craft booths, cooking demos, three stages of entertainment and 20 restaurants serving-you



guessed it—Spam. Options include Hawaiian Spam loco moco (white rice, fried egg, Spam and gravy) and musubi (a mound of rice and slab of Spam wrapped in nori). Alaska Airlines Visa Signature® card and Mileage Plan are sponsors (spamjamhawaii.com).

LANTERN FLOATING HAWAII

0'AHU | MAY 27, 2019

Each year on Memorial Day, more than 7,000 glowing wood-framed lanterns are launched into the Pacific at





dusk. At Ala Moana Beach, the lantern float is accompanied by taiko drumming, hula and music, as more than 50,000 attendees remember any loved ones who have passed, including those who served in the military (lanternfloatinghawaii.com).

KAPALUA WINE & FOOD FESTIVAL

MAUI | JUNE 6-9, 2019

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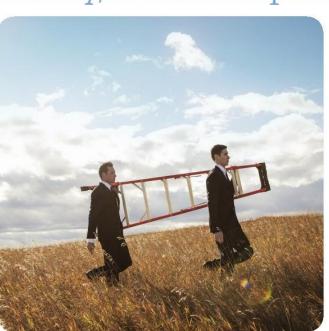
Writer Melanie Haiken covers food and travel.

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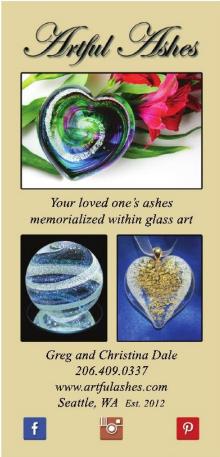
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DYNAMIC PITTSBURGH

A storied past and vibrant present create a remarkable riverside destination

By Christine H. O'Toole

>> The ship's horn sends a ripple of sound up leafy Mount Washington on the

south side of the Monongahela River, and the Gateway Clipper Fleet's *Duchess* surges into the watery center of Pittsburgh.

Geography, I've often heard, is destiny. That's always been true of this Western Pennsylvania city of about 300,000, part of a metro area of more than 2.3 million. From longtime use by Native peoples to the rise of the American colonies to development of a thriving modern city, the region where the Monongahela and Allegheny rivers join to become the mighty Ohio has been prime real estate. Pittsburgh's geography is also my destination: I'm enjoying water and land explorations





in my home city, starting with a one-hour, 2-mile paddlewheel excursion—the Three Rivers Sightseeing Cruise—beginning at Station Square in what is known as the South Side.

We first head east on the Monongahela River, traveling through a landscape famously built by steel. Pittsburgh's trio of steel, rivers and labor made it a 19th and 20th century powerhouse, creating fortunes for barons such as Andrew Carnegie and Andrew Mellon. Today, downtown has reclaimed its riverfronts for recreation, while Carnegie Mellon University and the University of Pittsburgh drive an economy now significantly based on medical research and robotics. The tech sector also includes sites for companies such as Google, Uber, Amazon and Facebook. And as we cruise toward a former steel-mill location called SouthSide Works, we see how it

NEAR&FAR»



has been repurposed as a handsome shopping and entertainment area, flanking a marina crowded with powerboats.

Near SouthSide Works, our cruise captain slowly turns the boat to head back west, toward the confluence of the three rivers, which is called the Point. "We're a hilly town," he explains as we cruise along. That's an understatement. Journalist Ernie Pyle, visiting in 1937, complained that Pittsburgh "must have been laid out by a mountain goat."

The central business district, often dubbed the Golden Triangle, is one of the city's few flat neighborhoods. Mount Washington, the southern bluff facing downtown, rises about 600 feet above the Monongahela River. Two late-19th century incline systems on the mountain—the 1870 Monongahela Incline and the 1877 Duquesne Incline—provide

fabulous views of the city. As we river travelers gaze upward from the top deck of our boat, we see Monongahela Incline cars smoothly passing each other at the midpoint, their red sides winking against the hillside's green trees. Our captain proudly notes that the waterfront is now home to a dozen bald eagles. Cleaner rivers have helped local wildlife resurge—even a bobcat has made an appearance—as well as encouraged human rowers, kayakers and cruisers.

The captain slows our boat as we approach the water-spray fountain that punctuates 36-acre Point State Park. In the 18th century, both the French and the British realized that controlling the Point was the key to controlling the Ohio Valley. (In 1753, George Washington, himself, then a young British envoy, described the point as a fine place for a

>>> The beautiful downtown Pittsburgh skyline shines at the confluence of three rivers, with Point State Park in the forefront.

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fortress.) We can see the brick 1764 Block House, the only remnant of the fort the Brits started building here in 1759.

In 1777, during the Revolutionary War, the fort was the western headquarters for the Continental Army, with troops and supplies located here. Today, cyclists cruise along the water's edge, amid bass fishermen and runners.

Riding the Burgh

After we dock back at Station Square, I continue my city tour on two wheels. Britt Keefer, co-owner of Golden Triangle Bike, downtown, outfits me with a rental bike, a helmet, a lock and a map with broad red lines. The lines trace 20-plus vehicletraffic-free miles of the Three Rivers Heritage Trail, whose southeastern end connects with the 150-mile Great Allegheny Passage trail to Cumberland, Maryland.

While Golden Triangle also offers guided tours, I go solo, heading west on the Three Rivers Heritage Trail to Point State Park. From the park, I cross the Fort Duquesne Bridge, via a designated bike/ foot path section, over the Allegheny River to access the area known as the North Shore. I can see the gold bowl of the NFL Steelers' home stadium, Heinz Field (Pittsburgh is the headquarters of the famous Heinz ketchup/food processing

company). Then a low gray conning tower catches my eye. It's part of the USS Requin submarine, built in 1945 and open for tours. The sub is moored next to its owner, Carnegie Science Center, part of Carnegie Museums of Pittsburgh.

Next I pedal to a North Shore Pop Art shrine. I knew that Andy Warhol was born and buried in the Pittsburgh area, though his international Pop Art reputation was forged in New York, and I'd read that some members of the Warhola family still lived in town. Even so, I was surprised by the size of the hometown tribute to him, a few steps from a bridge that also now bears his name. The seven-story Andy Warhol Museum, opened in 1994 by Carnegie Museums of Pittsburgh, holds the definitive collection of the artist's works and archival materials, including thousands of Warhol's paintings, prints, films and oddities, such as his stuffed Great Dane. (Also under Carnegie Museums of Pittsburgh's umbrella are Carnegie Museum of Art and Carnegie Museum of Natural History, which share a building in the Oakland neighborhood east of downtown.)

I recross the Allegheny River to return downtown, and soon I'm rolling along Penn Avenue, in the heart of the Cultural District. The Pittsburgh Cultural Trust revitalized this once seedy edge of down-

>>> From top: The impressive fountain rises at Point State Park; The Andy Warhol Museum has an extensive collection of the artist's works, such as Cow (1966) below; playful benches at Katz Plaza seem to eye visitors.





>> NEAR & FAR

PITTSBURGH

town by repurposing lovely existing structures. The Benedum Center and Heinz Hall, venues for the city's ballet, opera, musical theater and symphony, are beautifully restored century-old theater buildings that are centerpieces of an arts neighborhood that attracts more than 2 million patrons a year. From September to November this year, the Pittsburgh Cultural Trust will present the Pittsburgh International Festival of Firsts, with premieres of works, from circus to cinema, from 20 countries.

About a mile to the northeast, in what is known as the Strip District, the Senator John Heinz History Center, a Smithsonian Institution affiliate, presents notable traveling exhibits, as well as spotlighting Pittsburgh-related innovators such as Dr. Jonas Salk and George Westinghouse. A new "Heinz" exhibit at the museum show-



Pittsburgh Pro Sports

Pittsburgh's preferred dress code? Black and gold. The team colors shared by the NFL Steelers, MLB Pirates, NHL Penguins and USL (United Soccer League) Riverhounds SC are de rigueur attire for stadiums, casual Fridays and even weddings.

Pittsburgh has won more Super Bowl titles (six), and played in more conference championships (16) than any other NFL team. Heinz Field (above), the Steelers' home turf, recounts the team's storied

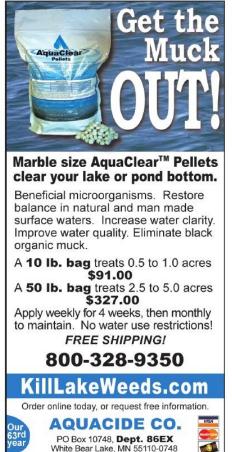
dominance in the field's Great Hall, open to the public on many weekdays and to ticketholders

on game days. The University of Pittsburgh Panthers also play their football home games at Heinz Field. The Penguins, perennial Stanley Cup contenders, skate at sleek, fan-friendly PPG Paints Arena, while the Pirates pitch their home games next to Heinz Field at PNC Park. The stadium's setting on the Allegheny riverfront routinely earns it accolades as one of America's best ballparks. The Riverhounds play at Highmark Stadium, near Station Square, on Pittsburgh's South Side. —C.O.

cases the history of the Heinz Company, founded in 1869. Artifacts include an 1869 recipe book, an 11-foot-tall ketchup bottle and more than 100 historical bottles.

I'll be visiting the Strip District tomorrow, so now I head toward Katz Plaza, a popular public space with a 25-foot-tall bronze fountain, the work of famed





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- Butcher and the Rye restaurant (butcherandtherye.com): Meat-centric menu and a 600-plus-bottle Whiskey Wall
- Pittsburgh Food Truck Park (pittsburghfoodpark.com): New and popular, with about a half-dozen trucks, plus craft-beer purveyors and live music performers; lineup regularly changes. — C.O.

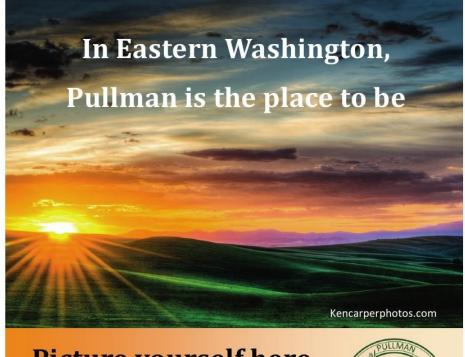
French-American artist Louise Bourgeois, and marquees teasing upcoming theater shows. As I cycle up, a pair of benches seem to stare at me. Their intriguing eyeball-shaped seats also are by Bourgeois.

In nearby Market Square, my wheels bounce on the cobblestones. The square is rimmed with sidewalk cafes, giving me a chance to dismount, lock my bike to a rack and sip a refreshing beverage after my approximately 5-mile ride.

Noshing in the Strip

Crowded sidewalks and plenty of blackand-gold souvenirs greet me the next afternoon in the Strip District, named for a one-half-square-mile strip of land between the Allegheny River and a bluff. It's a neighborhood whose reputation rests on food, families and wisecracking locals. I'm hungry to hear more. In the courtyard of the 1936 Saint Patrick Catholic church—whose tower contains a piece of the Blarney Stone from Blarney Castle in Ireland—I meet Cheryl Mattioli, who's gathered our group of six for a guided, multistop 'Burgh Bits and Bites food tour. The former kindergarten teacher doles out puffy slices of fragrant cinnamon bread from local Mancini's Bakery as she relays the immigrant history that has shaped the area's menu.

"This is a place with Old World charm and innovative thinking," she begins. The European-born laborers who flocked here at the end of the 19th century and the beginning of the 20th century craved the tastes of home, such as pasta, baklava, prosciutto and pizzelles. Soon, Mattioli explains, dozens of importers clustered at the Strip's railyards. Now the third and fourth generations of some of these

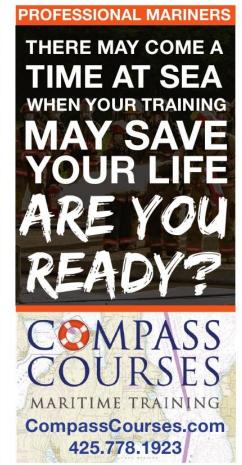


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With a career that took up a lot of his time and energy, online dating had begun to feel like Rick Swanson's second job. He spent hours filtering through online dating profiles but time after time, the spark just wasn't there. That's when Rick saw an ad for It's Just Lunch (IJL) in an airline magazine and decided to give matchmaking a try.

Today, Rick credits It's Just Lunch with introducing him to the love of his life, Kristina.

Life before It's Just Lunch?

Kristina: I just found the whole online dating thing completely unmanageable and daunting. I wanted someone who knew me to "fix me up" and when a friend suggested IJL, I did some research and found it to be the right "match" for me.

It's Just Lunch Matchmakers:

What was working with a matchmaker like?

Rick: The interview process was really valuable. Sandra, my matchmaker, was genuinely interested in learning about me. She really wanted to understand what I was looking for in a woman, what I found attractive, what I found interesting, what intrigued me. We talked about my work, my outside interests, etc. When someone is leading you through the process, it makes you think. Sandra got me to reflect honestly on what I was looking for.

Best part of the IJL experience?

K: It was super easy because IJL arranged the dates. All I had to do was get ready and meet at the restaurant. And unlike online dating, I felt that my dates were interested in meeting quality people, not one-night stands. Your matchmaker calls you up with a match and then gives you the details of the date. All you have to do is show up and have fun!

What makes you two a great match?

K: He's comfortable in his own skin. He loves the fact that I am confident! I can just be who I am, and I've never felt so at ease with anyone else.

Advice for singles considering IJL?

R: Dating is a real challenge in our fast paced, always connected, and frequently impersonal world. Having a real person on your side, helping to find the right partner is a huge plus.

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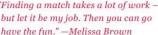
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family-owned businesses are the heart of the neighborhood, sharing their favorite recipes from narrow storefronts and sidewalk stands.

At Parma Sausage, Erin Schumacher and her brother, Jake Edwards, slice us paper-thin samples of their cured meats. I take a bite of Parma's delicious mild lonzetta cotta, which is a rosemary-scented cured pork loin, followed by a rustic salami infused with red wine and garlic.

Another stop is for fresh Pepperoni Roll sold at Jimmy & Nino Sunseri Co., where co-owner Jimmy
Sunseri holds court. He tells us of starting work at the shop at age 13, in 1966. "I didn't get a paycheck till I was 16," he deadpans.

Additional sites showcase foods ranging from pierogies to biscotti, to hummus striped with olive oil, and Mattioli also points out the 1933 founding location of Primanti Bros., renowned for a meat sandwich featuring french fries and coleslaw.

We end our tour with sparkling Ouzon Soda—a nonalcoholic beverage inspired by the anise flavor of ouzo—served by Connie and Catina Stamoolis at Stamoolis Brothers. The Greek deli's 1909 founders included their grandfather. The soda is memorable, with an exotic aftertaste. It's a perfect description of the afternoon, and I raise a toast to Pittsburgh.

✓

Christine H. O'Toole is a Pittsburghbased freelance writer and book author, including the guide Pennsylvania: Off the Beaten Path. For more information on Pittsburgh, including free light rail service with stops near attractions, see visitpittsburgh.com.

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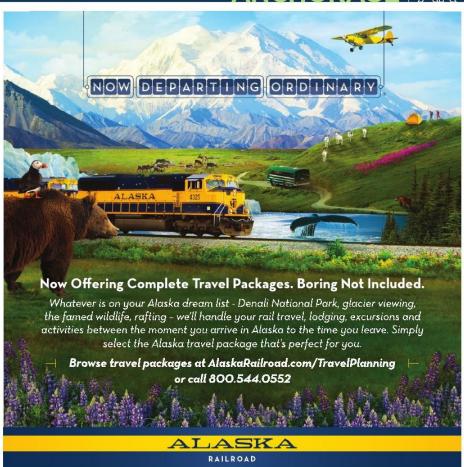


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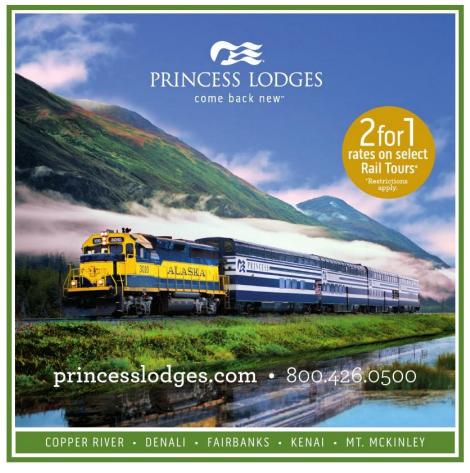


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KINGDOM OF BEARS

Alaska's Katmai National Park is a paradise for wildlife photographers

Story and photos by Paul Souders

>>> She's acting like I'm not even there, as if I'm invisible. And, given the circumstances, that's not a bad thing. She's a bear, after all, standing yards away across the water from where I sit on the bank of a small salmon stream along Alaska's Katmai coast in Katmai National Park & Preserve. I make no sound and don't move a muscle.

The bear stares at the water's surface and searches for a salmon's passing shadow. She stands on a small rise, and I can feel my heart pounding inside my chest as if it were some small and frightened bird. Slowly, I raise my camera, compose and press the shutter. The sow grabs a thrashing fish and retreats to the far bank to feast. We're both pleased with our morning's work.

For years, I'd heard Alaska-size stories about Katmai National Park, in particular Hallo Bay and the surrounding wilderness coastline. I'd heard how hundreds of bears, drawn by the promise of late-summer salmon runs and protected by national park borders, congregate all along the remote bays of the Alaska Peninsula. I knew I had to find a way to Katmai.



The coast is northwest of Kodiak Island, and to get there, you have to fly or join a ship-based expedition, usually led by cheerful and knowledgeable guides. Those are good options, but I'm more of a BYOB guy: Bring your own boat.

A few years back, I'd bought a 22-foot powerboat named, appropriately enough, *C-Sick*. To get the vessel to Alaska, I had to tow it more than 2,000 miles and take it on a ferry. It would have been much easier to fly. But I like that *C-Sick* offers me some of the comforts of home: a warm and dry place to sleep, a table to work and eat upon, a small stove and sink, and a roof over my head.

I assembled adequate stocks of food, along with a small mountain of



>>> Above: A brown bear searches for salmon in a stream along Kinak Bay in Katmai National Park & Preserve. Left: A sow and a cub feed in a meadow along Geographic Harbor in Katmai.

HERE&NOW»



foul-weather gear and photography equipment. I even brought along a custom-made underwater camera to capture a salmon's-eye view of the bears. Departing from the town of Kodiak's harbor, the trip took nearly seven hours.

Then I spent weeks exploring Katmai National Park's coastal meadows

and streams, tucking *C-Sick* into small, sheltered coves and setting off for shore in my inflatable dinghy, caching it above the tide line and wandering on foot in search of bears.

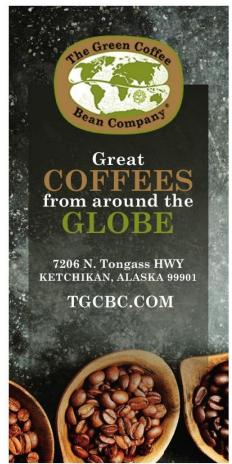
With an abundance of food here, the bears have come to see human visitors as neither threat nor competition nor prey. Most of the time, I

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ALASKA



A bear swims after salmon in Kuliak Bay in Katmai National Park & Preserve.

felt invisible. Still, it's always smart to observe from a safe distance.

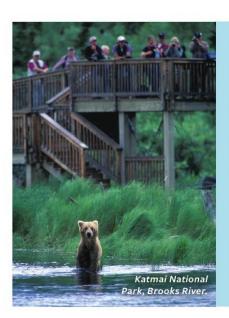
After a while, it was hard not to go a little soft on the bears. As I began to recognize individual bears, I handed out my own names for them. Scruff and Splitnose. Manson and Dingbat. I never thought to ask what they called me.

Paradise, as a wildlife photographer, at least, is a place where there are lots of appealing and interesting animals, all living undisturbed and

unafraid, where I can walk around and take pictures without a lot of fuss. The job is so much easier when the subjects are not fleeing.

The Katmai coast seemed as close as I might ever get to the heavens. I came to call it the Kingdom of Bears. *

Paul Souders lives in Seattle and is the author of Arctic Solitaire: A Boat, a Bay, and the Quest for the Perfect Bear, due out in September.



WHERE THE BEARS ARE

Alaska Wildlife Conservation Center:

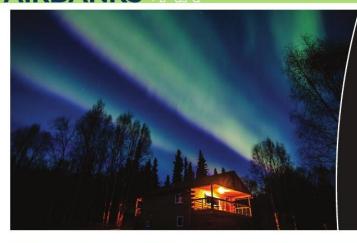
About 50 miles southeast of Anchorage, this wildlife haven is home to black and brown bears (alaskawildlife.org).

- Anan Wildlife Observatory: In July and August at Anan Creek, about 30 miles southeast of Wrangell, black and brown bears fish for pink salmon (fs.usda.gov/ recarea/tongass/recreation/natureviewing/ recarea/?recid=79154&actid=62).
- Denali National Park & Preserve: Book a bus tour down Denali Park Road, where grizzly bears can be seen roaming the grasslands in vegetation sprouting throughout

spring and summer (nps.gov/dena/learn/ nature/wildlife.htm).

- Frazer Lake (Dog Salmon Creek): As sockeye run into freshwater on Kodiak Island from June through August, Kodiak bears camp along Dog Salmon Creek (alaska.org/detail/ frazer-lake-dog-salmon-creek).
- Katmai National Park & Preserve, Brooks River: June through September, watch from viewing platforms as bears chase salmon in knee-deep waterfalls (nps.gov/katm/planyourvisit/brooks-camp.htm). —Charlie White

*Always observe bears from a safe distance.





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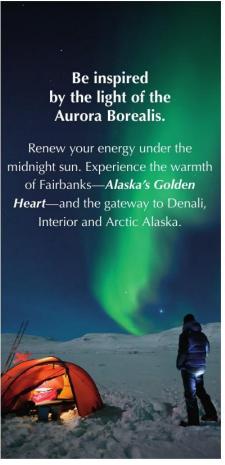
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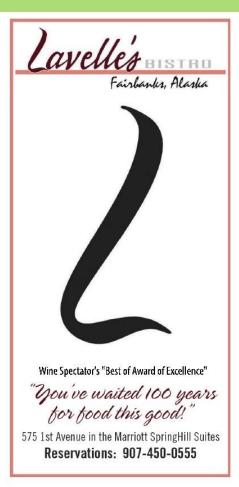
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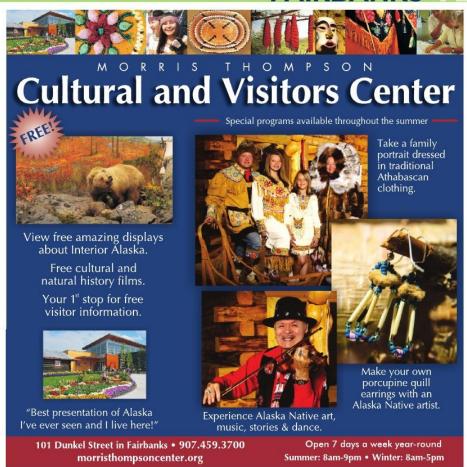


















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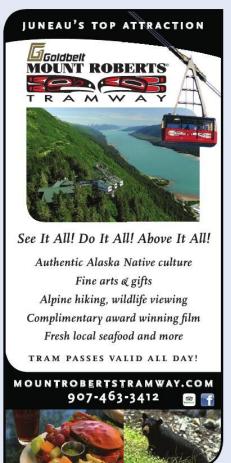
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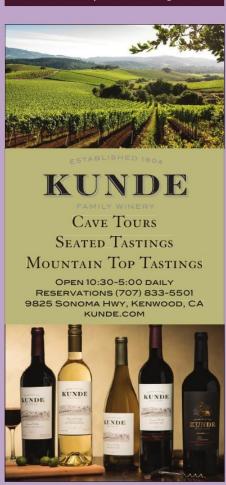


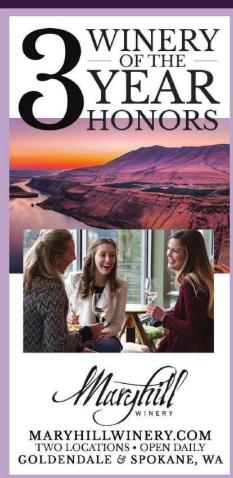
WEST COAST WINES













KICKING BACK IN KIRKLAND

Summer vibes in a beach town

By Julie Arnan

paddleboard as I dig another stroke through Lake Washington near Carillon Point in Kirkland. A friend and I are on an early-morning, 3-mile roundtrip paddle, enjoying the glassy surface of the approximately 20-mile-long lake, which is the color of cornflowers in the morning light. Verdant park lawns and long wooden docks, interspersed with condos and private homes, line the eastern shore on this stretch of the lake, less than 15 miles east of downtown Seattle. We pause to watch serene ducks near marshy patches. The birds seem almost as relaxed as we are.

At the end of our paddle, we stash our SUPs on my friend's boat at the City of Kirkland's Marina Park, which has nearly 700 feet of waterfront, picnic tables and dock fishing. For visitors without their own boards or boats, Northwest Paddle Surfers offers seasonal SUP rentals from a tent at the south end of the park, while at Houghton Beach Park, less than 1.5 miles south, you can rent SUPs and kayaks from Perfect





>>> From top: Popular Kirkland activities include paddleboarding on Lake Washington, enjoying refreshments at Wow Wow Hawaiian Lemonade, and visiting Lady Yum for macarons.

Wave, or even take an SUP lesson. And Woodmark Waterfront Adventures at Carillon Point rents personal watercraft, motorboats, kayaks and SUPs.

After our morning paddle, my friend and I stroll less than a minute north to Wow Wow Hawaiian Lemonade for Lava Flow lemonade, with organic-coconut puree, pineapple puree and strawberry puree, made in-house daily.

After our juice recharge, we saunter east through Kirkland's quaint downtown to peruse fashion trends at the many boutique shops—there's even one offering macarons. Twenty flavors of the treat, handcrafted, are available at Lady Yum. And for pooches, there's the BooBoo Barkery & Boutique.

Kirkland is named for British steel tycoon Peter Kirk, who sought development opportunities in the Northwest in the 1880s, according to the City of Kirkland. Kirk co-founded Moss Bay Iron and Steelworks here, and although the steel mill closed because of an 1893 U.S. financial crisis, other industries, such as wool milling and ship building, thrived.

Wool products were sought by Klondike Gold Rush prospectors, while construction of ferries was needed to serve the Seattle region's transportation needs. And during World War II, more than 25 warships for



the U.S. Navy were built at what is now Carillon Point.

The 1963 completion of the Evergreen Point Floating Bridge from Seattle to the east side of Lake Washington fostered additional commercial and residential growth, and Kirkland has become a vibrant lakeside community offering many urban attractions while retaining a laidback beachy soul that shines brightest during the summer.

Residents and visitors alike soak up the sun at more than a dozen waterfront parks and 30-plus inland parks. Runners and cyclists love the flat, crushed-gravel Cross Kirkland Corridor Trail, stretching nearly 6 miles between Kirkland's south end and the Totem Lake neighborhood (rent a bike at Kirkland Bicycle, about a half-mile from the trail section nearest to downtown).

When my friends and I ride the trail, we like to stop at Chainline Brewing Company, south of downtown and also near Google's Kirkland campus. We cool down on the brewery's back patio with a seasonal brew or the tropical flavors of the Trail Gnome IPA.

Another popular attraction is the Kirkland Wednesday Farmers Market, June–September. Located along the waterfront at Marina Park, the market makes it feel like the whole town has come together for a beach party. Kids in strollers munch on kettle corn or raspberries, while moms shop and chat with friends. Older kids splash in the lake and dig in the sandypebbly beach.

Marina Park is also one of the locations for Kirkland Summerfest, August 10–12 this year. The festival features live music, art exhibitions, local beer and wine, numerous food and other vendors, and a weekend Kidzone.

Located about a 5-minute walk east of Marina Park, the Melody Lynne Vineyard Tasting Room & Wine Bar opened last September. Owners Guy and Melody O'Tierney offer selections from their own Eastern Washington vineyard and also from other Evergreen State winemakers. The couple also sell flowers, fruits and vegetables grown in their vineyard, along with tapas and chocolates.

Nearby at Volterra Restaurant, chef Don

KIRKLAND PUBLIC ART

In 1872, settlers who had arrived in Seattle from Maine pitched their tents on the shores of Moss Bay in what is now Kirkland. One hundred years later, the City of Kirkland installed **Centennial Fountain** (above right, by James Herbert Fitz-Gerald) at Marina Park

settlement.
This bronze-and-stone sculpture has since been joined by dozens of additional works of art gifted to and purchased by the City of Kirkland in conjunction with the Kirkland Cultural Arts Commission. Following are some of the many

to commemorate the

■ Puddle Jumpers

notable pieces:

(by Glenna Goodacre, bronze): This sculpture depicting six children holding hands in various stages of leaping is perhaps the favorite photo op for parents and youngsters visiting Marina Park. Inevitably, a flesh-and-blood kid can be seen taking a free piggyback ride on one of the bronze kids (interac-



tions with the sculptures are permitted).

- The Homecoming (by Stanley Bleifeld, bronze): Also at Marina Park, the piece depicts an emotional embrace between a Navy sailor and his wife, as their young son tries to wrap his arms around both of them.
- Cow and Coyote
 (below right, by Brad
 Rude, bronze): Located
 at the corner of Central
 Way and Lake Street,
 this sculpture seems
 like the town mascot.

The pair of animals is accessorized for nearly every holiday, as well as big Seahawks games, when the cow and coyote sport 12th Man gear.

- The Gossips (by Louise McDowell, bronze): Three slightly abstracted figures deep in conversation sit crosslegged in the middle of Peter Kirk Park.
- First Romance and Leap Frog: These adorable bronze pieces (both by Prince Monyo Simon Mihailescu-Nasturel) are located along the waterfront at Houghton Beach Park and Marsh Park, respectively.
- Interesting abstract pieces include *Reverb* (Anthony A. Howe, stainless steel, Lake Street), *Spring* (Peter Skinner, polished granite, Houghton Beach Park), and *Patination* (Julie Spiedel, bronze, Kirkland Way).

For more about Kirkland public art, see explore-kirkland.com. — *J.A.*



Curtiss' award-winning Tuscany-inspired fare innovatively features Northwest and Tuscan ingredients.

About a half-mile northeast at Little Brother, chefs Jamie Casady and Jordan Cooper transform well-tended relationships with local farmers into rustically sophisticated dishes. Some girlfriends and I whiled away a recent warm evening on the Little Brother patio, with sparkling rosé and a charcuterie-laden chef's board.

We ended the night with a pint—choosing from a rotating list of local and regional brews—at Wilde Rover Irish Public House and Restaurant, whose regular trivia nights, Rockaraoke, DJ sessions, live music and online guide to pairing beer with food have made it another lively Kirkland choice.

★

Freelance writer Julie Arnan enjoys showing Kirkland off to family and friends.

>> HERE & NOW

SEATTLE

A FEW KIRKLAND FAVORITES

■ Bottle and Bull (bottle-bull.com): A food and craft cocktails menu inspired by Hemingway's travels includes the Old Cuban cocktail, with white rum, mint, lime, sugar, angostura bitters and sparkling wine.

Clothing Boutiques:

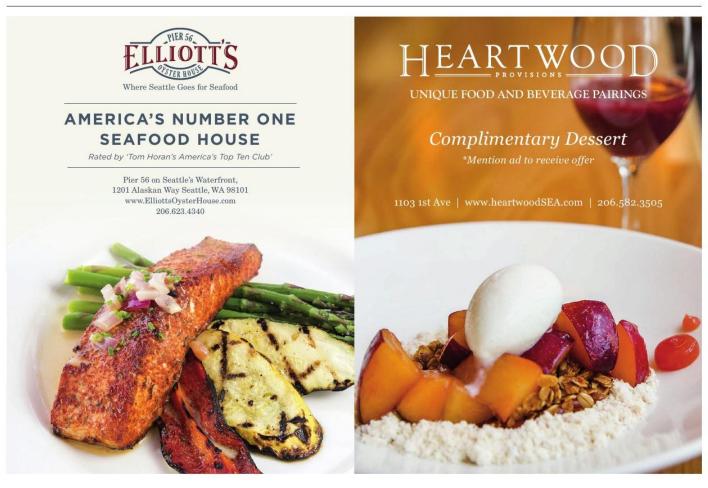
Crush Footwear (crushfootwear.com) sources brands such as Coclico. Via Lago (shown at right; facebook. com/vialago) carries clothing and jewelry from designers such as Nicole Miller. Hepburn Boutique (haleyscottage.com) has stylish women's wear. Find quality menswear at Seattle Thread Company (seattlethread.com).



■ Cruise around Lake Washington aboard the Lady Mary with Argosy Cruises (argosycruises.com): The 90-minute tour includes

historical information, views of the Cascade Range and Mount Rainier (weather permitting), and of exteriors of waterfront homes.

- **Deru Market** (derumarket.com): The dark-chocolate-chip cookies and towering slices of cake are legendary.
- Juanita Area (juanitaneighborhoods.org): Includes attractions such as 110-acre Juanita Bay Park, featuring excellent bird-watching opportunities. Also enjoy award-winning Cafe Juanita.
- **Kirkland Performance Center** (kpcenter.org): Music, dance, theater, comedy and more, with national and local performers.
- Le Grand Bistro Américain (bistrolegrand.com): Take in a sunset over the lake while enjoying a glass of French bubbly and a platter of Washington state oysters on the half shell.
- The Slip (facebook.com/thesliprestaurant): Home of the delicious peanut butter bacon burger. Sit outside for a lake view.
- The Village at Totem Lake (the village at totem lake.com): New mixed-use complex (replaced Totem Lake Mall), including shopping and dining, with a cinema expected to open next year. J.A.



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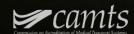
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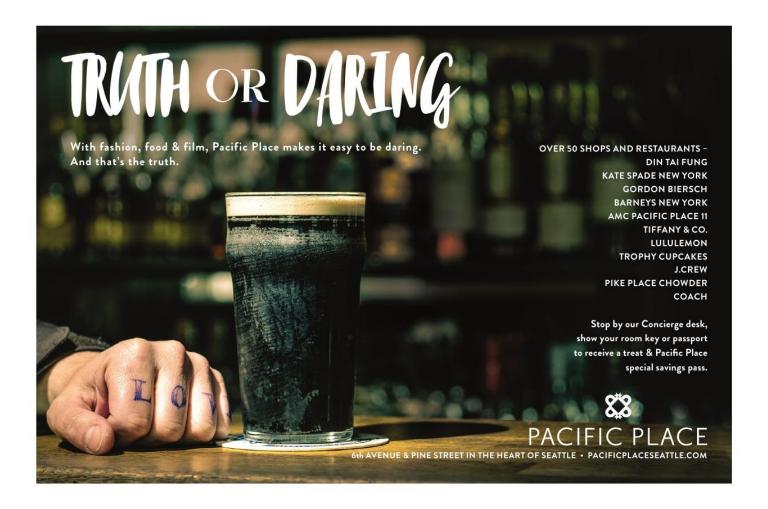
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CIRQUE DU SOLEIL VOLTA

By Michele Andrus Dill

>> With a theme of celebrating the differences that make each person extraordinary, Cirque du Soleil's Volta features characters ranging from dull Greys to bright FreeSpirits as it tells the story of a young boy named Waz who is searching for love and acceptance.

The show—being performed Sept. 7-Nov. 4 in Cirque's big top, set up at Marymoor Park in Redmond, about 15 miles east of Seattle—combines mesmerizing music and breathtaking acrobatics with roller skating, hip-hop-influenced jump roping, "Trampowall" action, and even a pas de deux showcasing a BMX bike rider and a ballet dancer. Also on stage will be acts featuring rings, ladders, geometric shapes that acrobats dive through, and an artist spinning by her hair.

As Waz embraces his true identity, he displays his exuberance via dramatic contemporary dance, while during the show's grand finale, BMX riders provide "fast and furious" air tricks on wheels (as shown at right).

The show's costumes were designed by Zaldy Goco, who has worked with celebrities ranging from Lady Gaga to Britney Spears. Volta costumes include a headdress with 1,500 blue feathers for Waz; a golden coat for a character named Mr. Wow; and colorful fabrics, prints and trinkets, evoking travel and world cultures, for the FreeSpirits.

"Volta" can connote meanings ranging from a turn of thought, as in a sonnet, to measuring



the force related to an electric current, as in "volt," a word derived from the name of Italian physicist Alessandro Volta, credited with invention of the electric battery. In the Cirque

show, Waz turns to a new understanding, a new way of thinking, as his experiences provide powerful illumination. For more information, visit cirquedusoleil.com/volta. *

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)) Famous kite fliers from across the globe, along with hobby, family and kid fliers, plus thousands of spectators, enjoy the annual Washington State International Kite Festival. The event takes place Aug. 20-26 this year, in the Pacific coast town of Long Beach, about 175 miles southwest of Seattle. Dozens of competitions and demonstrations, from stunt kites, battle kites and handmade kites to kites with the most creative tails, are complemented by workshops and presentations. For more information, see kitefestival.com.





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>> HERE & NOW SEATTLE

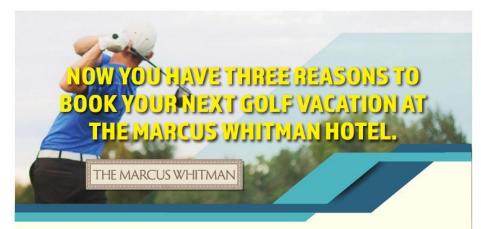
CAL FNDAR

More than 200 artifacts are featured in "Pearl Jam: Home and Away," at the Museum of Pop Culture (MoPOP). Opening August 11 and on view through early 2019, the exhibit includes band members' instruments, equipment, stage props, original typewritten lyrics, notebooks and set lists,



with a photo op featuring the towering letters from the front of Pearl Jam's debut album, "Ten" (mopop.org).

- The North Cascades National
 Park Service Complex 50thanniversary celebration, Aug. 21–25,
 in the Newhalem area, about 120 miles
 northeast of Seattle, features American
 Wild Ensemble, a group of professional
 musicians hosting family-friendly music
 activities and evening performances of
 new works inspired by national parks
 across the country. The park is also
 holding additional celebratory events
 throughout the year. Visit nps.gov/noca
 for more information.
- Telling the stories of Americans' World War I experiences—from battles in France to a surge in Puget Soundarea manufacturing, the exhibit "WW1 America" will be on view at the Museum of History & Industry, Sept. 1–Feb. 10. MOHAI is the only West Coast venue for the exhibit, which coincides with the centennial of Armistice Day on Nov. 11 (mohai.org).
- Enjoy speakers, guided walks, land and water field trips, exhibits and educational activities for kids and adults during **Puget Sound Bird Fest,** Sept. 14–16 in Edmonds, about 20 miles north of Seattle (pugetsoundbirdfest. org). ズ



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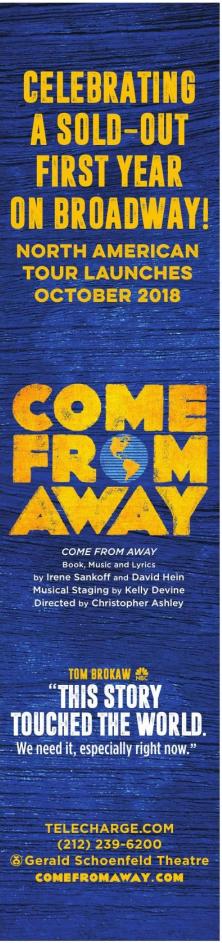




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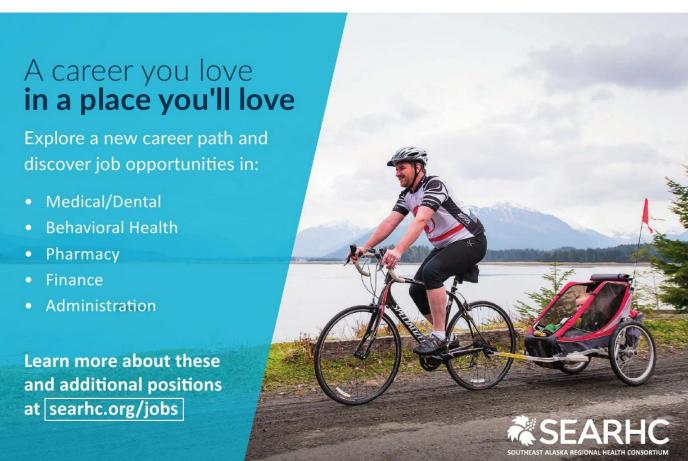
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DIABLO VALLEY EXCURSION

The Concord Beer Trail, Mount Diablo and the John Muir National Historic Site

By Jo Piazza

)) I'm having a tough time deciding between the Plankwalker Pale Ale and the Shorty's Revenge Strong Amber Ale at E.J. Phair Brewing Company's Concord Alehouse. When I ask the bartender for a recommendation, he pours me samples. They're both so good, I order one of each and share them with my husband, Nick.

Millions of visitors travel to Northern California every year for the wine, as well they should. But lately, connoisseurs of another sort have been heading to the Diablo Valley, about 20 miles northeast of Oakland and about 30 miles across the bay from San Francisco. These travelers go for the notable beer being crafted in idyllic towns tucked among rolling golden hills in the shadow of Mount Diablo. Other travelers visit the Diablo Valley area for outdoor recreation and a dose of history found in these hills—as we are also doing on our trip.

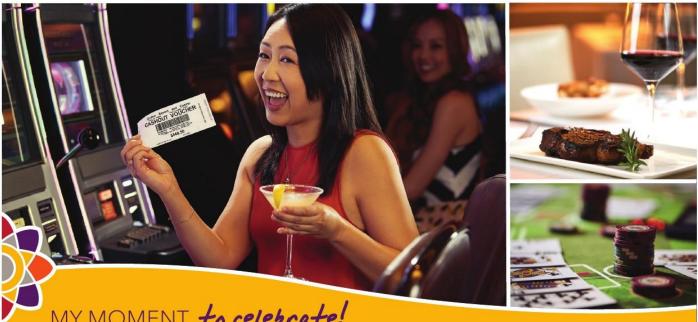
"Make sure to order the Beer Cheese Nachos," a regular alehouse patron whispers to me as I sip my Plankwalker. "You'll never want to eat just any old nachos again." He doesn't steer me wrong. The gooey delicacy—with house-

made tortilla chips, alehouse chili and cheddary beer cheese with secret-recipe spicy sauce—pairs perfectly with my ale.

I'm trying to save some room for our next stop on what is locally known as the Concord Beer Trail, a loose association of three brewery-food establishments that is expected to grow steadily. We are heading next to The Hop Grenade taproom and bottle shop, about a minute's walk away. On the way, I quickly check the website, which is updated often to show the current list of 21 craft beers on tap, many of them from California brewers. Nick and I take seats on the relaxing outdoor patio and order delicious barbecue brisket. We pair our meals with a tasty wine-barrel-aged raspberry beer crafted by The Lost Abbey in Southern California (the beers here are always changing).



>>> The observation deck at the peak of Mount Diablo, top, affords commanding views in all directions. The E.J. Phair Brewing Company's Concord Alehouse, right, is part of a growing beer scene.



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>>> The John Muir National Historic Site, above and right, encompasses more than 325 acres of oak forest and fields, as well as the historical home of the Muir family.

Our final stop, about a 3.5-mile drive north, is the Epidemic Ales Taproom and Brewery. We stop for a growler of Nightshade, a handcrafted bourbon barrel-aged vanilla stout that we are planning on enjoying tomorrow. We're thinking it will be a quick in-and-out at the taproom, but the staffers there have such a passion for brewing beer, we end up devoting two hours to chatting and tasting.

MOUNT DIABLO

We spend the night in the city of Concord and awaken refreshed and ready for the next adventure, which takes us about 20 miles southeast of town, into Mount Diablo State Park. On a clear day, the view from the Summit Visitor Center's observation deck at the top of Mount Diablo feels like the top of the world. According to the center's information, 40 of California's 58 counties are visible. Far to the west are the Farallon Islands, to the east Yosemite Valley, and to the north the peaks of Mount St. Helena and Mount Lassen.

My husband and I pull out our binoculars and settle in on a picnic blanket spread across a clearing near the summit to watch raptors dive and dance through the sky. Visitors can also hike to the 3,849-foot summit of Mount Diablo on one of the park's many trails (distances vary depending on route and starting point), or drive about 11 miles from the North Gate Entrance to the top.

JOHN MUIR NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE

Since moving to Northern California three years ago, I've immersed myself in the writings of John Muir. I consider them my California wilderness bibles. I've spent many an afternoon meandering through the redwoods at Muir Woods National Monument north of San Francisco, and I often carry a dog-eared copy of Muir's Wilderness Essays when I hike in Yosemite. But until this year I'd never visited the John Muir National Historic Site in the Diablo Valley

>> HERE & NOW **CALIFORNIA**

town of Martinez, where the famed naturalist regarded as the father of the National Park Service once lived, raised his family and did much of his writing.

The park rangers here clearly adore Muir, and they could likely pontificate on the man and his legacy for hours. They share stories I've never heard about Muir the inventor and Muir the family man. He once designed an "alarm

> clock bed," with a mechanism that would tip the bed up and slide him off the end in the morning, and he took his two daughters on long nature walks through the oak forest of Mount Wanda, which he named for his eldest daughter. The mountain, which is part of the historic site, also has picnic areas, or you can lunch beneath redwood and pecan trees in Muir's orchards on the park grounds. You can also tour part of the Muir family home—which totals more than

10,000 square feet, including porches, attic and basement. The alarm clock bed isn't present, but you can see Muir's desk in his study.

In addition, rangers regularly lead nighttime hikes on Mount Wanda to watch the full moon rise and to search for the elusive California gray fox.

Exploring the stomping grounds of Muir, the famous California explorer, seems like a fine way to finish our own Diablo Valley excursion. X

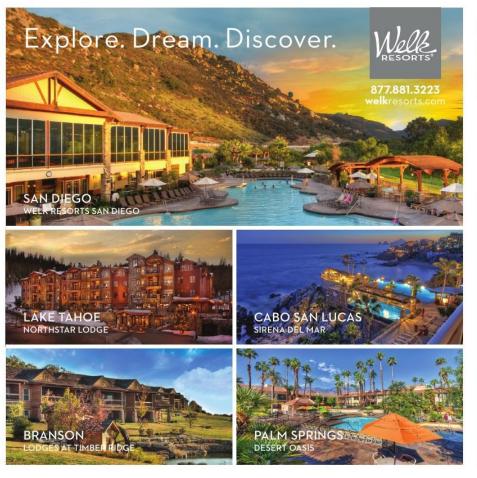
Jo Piazza writes from the San Francisco Bay Area.

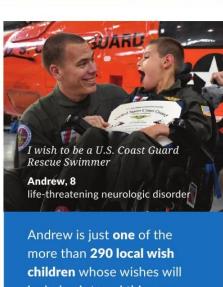
MORE IN THE AREA

- aRt Cottage (artcottage.info): The art exhibits are constantly changing at this adorable yellow-andgreen Concord studio and gallery, which has become a lively gathering space for local and visiting artists and art lovers.
- California Magic Club (calmagic.com): Channel your inner child at this supper club in Martinez that hosts a rotating cast featuring some of the world's best magicians. Book early. Seats often fill up quickly.
- Lime Ridge Trail Walking (walnut-creek.org/ departments/open-space): The Lime Ridge Open Space offers 25 miles of mostly unpaved trails for walking and biking. - J.P.

WORLD CLASS SELECTION







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Flyer guide

Your overview of the Alaska experience.

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Everything Alaska

A look at all we offer.

Start every trip at alaskaair.com.



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- Check out our weekly flight deals
- Plan your whole trip with hotel, car and vacation packages
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- · Find and book flights
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- Access Mileage Plan information
- Pre-reserve meals







The Alaska Lounge is your sanctuary.



Lounge members enjoy access to our seven lounges in Seattle, Portland, Los Angeles, New York-JFK and Anchorage, and more than 60 affiliated lounges worldwide. Warm pancakes at breakfast, and soups, salads and snacks are available throughout the day, plus a fully stocked bar and Starbucks® coffee. Get more details at alaskaair.com/lounge.



B737-900/900ER

Range: up to 2,720 miles Seats: 178 B737-800

Range: 2,920 miles Seats: 159 B737-700

Range: 2,985 miles Seats: 124 B737-700F (freighter)

Range: 2,985 miles Capacity: 9–10 cargo containers You'll find Boeing's new Space Bins, offering 48% more stowage space, on our 737-900ER aircraft.

Regional fleet.



Bombardier Q400

Range: 1,114 miles Seats: 76 Operated by Horizon Air



Embraer E175

Range: 2,150 miles Seats: 76 Operated by Horizon Air and SkyWest Airlines

Airbus fleet.



Airbus A319

Range: 2,986 miles Seats: 119 Airbus A320

Range: 2,855 miles Seats: 146-149 Airbus A321neo

Range: 3,072 miles Seats: 185

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Visit alaskalistens.com.

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Delivered in 20 mins or less.

If we miss the mark, see an agent for a voucher.

Terms apply. See bit.ly/BagGuarantee for details.

The Alaska experience

Enjoy the journey.

Our three travel classes all feature great perks

What can you expect aboard an Alaska Airlines flight? You'll find a variety of comfortable seating choices and a tasty selection of food and drinks. We have power outlets to keep you charged, Wi-Fi to keep you connected, and entertainment options to captivate you. And as always, our warm, friendly flight crew is ready to help you however they can.



First Class

Choose First Class for spacious seating, plentiful food and beverage choices, and our dedicated flight attendants.

- ✓ Luxury at an affordable price
- Priority access for check-in and security lines
- Power outlets at every seat, on most aircraft
- Two bags checked free



Premium Class

More space, more perks and early boarding: Treat yourself to our Premium Class experience on your next flight.

- 4" more legroom than Main Cabin seats
- ✓ Board early and get settled
- Drinks are on us
- Power outlets that are easy to access



Main Cabin

Enjoy our Main Cabin seats with a complimentary snack and beverages.

- Power outlets at every seat, on most
- Over 200 free movies and TV shows on Alaska Beyond Entertainment
- Fresh West Coast meals for purchase
- Award-winning service

Enjoy a drink

Refreshing selections, for free or for purchase.

COMPLIMENTARY BEVERAGES



Sodas Coca-Cola Coke Zero Diet Coke Sprite Sprite Zero Seagram's Ginger Ale Seagram's Seltzer

Seagram's Tonic

Pike Place® Roast



Coffee Proudly serving Starbucks®

Other

Bottled Water
Orange Juice
Tomato Juice
Cranberry Juice
Apple Juice
Our special blend of Passion, Orange and Guava
(on flights to Hawai'i)

Bloody Mary Mix Tazo[®] Awake[®] black tea Tazo[®] Sweet Orange hot herbal tea (caffeine-free)

Tazo® Zen™ green tea

PREMIUM WINES AND BEERS



Canoe Ridge \$7.50
Vineyard
The Exploration
Cabernet Sauvignon

Canoe Ridge \$7.50 Vineyard The Exploration Chardonnay

La Marca \$8.50 Prosecco

All prices in U.S. dollars.

Craft Brews \$7.50

Ballast Point Sculpin IPA—70 IBU
Lagunitas 12th of Never Ale—45 IBU
Firestone Walker 805 Blonde Ale—20 IBU
Alaskan Brewing Kölsch—18 IBU
Imperial—17 IBU (to/from Costa Rica)
Modelo Especial—18 IBU (to/from Mexico)
Longboard Lager—20 IBU (to/from Hawaiʻi)

How beer measures up: Find your sweet spot for bitter by checking IBUs—the International Bitterness Units scale. Go high and try an IPA with bite. Lay low with a smooth Kölsch. Our craft brews have you covered.

LIQUOR

Spirits \$7.50
Baileys Irish Cream
Crater Lake Hazelnut
Espresso Vodka
Crown Royal
Cruzan Aged Rum

Dewar's White Label Scotch Jack Daniel's Black Label Sauza Tequila Tanqueray London Dry Gin Tito's Handmade Vodka Woodford Reserve Bourbon

First Class Wines

Featured wines this month.



Canon 13 Chardonnay

California, Santa Lucia Highlands

Opens with floral accents followed by stone fruits. Flavors show more tropical character on the palate with a delicate hint of white chocolate.



Pendulum Red Blend

Washington, Columbia Valley

Cherry and toasted oak on the nose lead to flavors of plum, clove and raspberry that round out this well-balanced wine with a long finish.

Beverage service may vary due to time of day and flight-segment time limitations. Items limited and based on availability. Individuals must be 21 years or older to consume alcoholic beverages. Government warning: According to the Surgeon General, women should not drink alcoholic beverages during pregnancy. Consumption of alcoholic beverages impairs your ability to drive a car or operate machinery, and may cause health problems. Pike Place is a registered trademark of The Pike Place Market PDA, used under license.

in your seatback pocket displays all our food and beverage options.

The menu card

Movies, TV, Wi-Fi and more.

The choice is yours.

Get started:

The "Movies & Wi-Fi" card in your seatback pocket has instructions on how to watch.

Kick back with over 200 free movies and TV shows.

Nearly every flight offers Alaska Beyond Entertainment, our streaming entertainment system that features hit movies and episodes from your favorite TV networks—like HGTV and Food Network—as well as new discoveries, including new musicians on Seattle's independent record label, Sub Pop.



HIT MOVIES ON ALASKA BEYOND ENTERTAINMENT:

Download the app:

You'll need the Gogo Entertainment App to watch movies. Get it now at loadplayer.com.











Black Panther

Rampage

Ready Player One

Tomb Raider (2018)

Isle of Dogs

HERE'S A PEEK AT THE MOVIES RECENTLY ADDED TO OUR ALASKA BEYOND ENTERTAINMENT LINEUP:

- Big Sonia
- Rampage
- Life of the Party
- Ready Player One
- Tomb Raider (2018)
- Isle of Dogs
- Black Panther
- 2001: A Space Odyssey
- The Color Purple
- Marvel's The Avengers

- The Secret Garden
- The Devil Wears Prada
- Where the Wild Things Are
- Anywhere But Here
- The Post
- Maze Runner: The Death Cure
- Father Figures
- Ferdinand

For a complete movie/TV program listing, go to AlaskaWiFi.com while inflight.

- Love, Simon
- The Greatest Showman

- Geostorm
- Dunkirk
- The House
- Moana
- Big Hero 6
- Beauty and the Beast (2017)
- Tangled
- Mulan

2000 10 0000 2000 002000

Like our tunes?

Take a look at this month's boarding music playlist:



Artist Song Manchester Orchestra The Sunshine Xavier Rudd Walk Away Real Estate Darling William Fitzsimmons Learning to Fly Iron & Wine Right for Sky Damien Jurado Percy Faith No Going Back Yuno Doyle Bramhall II Rich Man Milo Greene Move Damien Jurado Allocate

a Luz Walking into the Sun

The Outdoor Type Rumination

Andreas Moe Ocean (Take the Dive)



Plus, check out our featured Sub Pop album of the month:

Yuno Moodie

Yuno's musical upbringing came mainly from being part of his local skateboarding subculture. The 27-year-old from Jacksonville, Florida, creates his music at home, self-producing and engineering, and playing all the instruments. "I like being really hands on with everything surrounding my music," he says.

You're now cleared for text-off.

Never miss a thing when you can text for free using Wi-Fi. Text your friends from your smartphone using iMessage, Facebook Messenger and WhatsApp. Please keep in mind:

- Free texting is for text-based messages only. Photos and video are not supported.
- Both you and your recipient must have one of the compatible apps.
- Free texting is available only on flights with Gogo or Viasat Inflight Internet.

Inflight, go to AlaskaWiFi.com to get started.



Go online.

Inflight internet is available on all of our Airbus, Boeing and Embraer 175 aircraft, when flying over the continental U.S., Canada and parts of Alaska. Internet is also available on flights to Hawaii operated by Airbus aircraft.

TIPS FOR MAKING THE MOST OF INFLIGHT WI-FI:

It's great to be able to stay connected while you fly, but inflight Wi-Fi is different from the Wi-Fi you may be used to.

- Work smarter. Use webmail instead of Outlook to check your inbox. You never know what large files might be lurking in there.
- Wait to send that TPS report. Large attachments can slow things down: avoid sending while in air.
- Bookmark or favorite AlaskaWiFi.com to quickly access inflight internet.
- Huh? Live Help is available on flights within the coverage area. FAQs are at your fingertips on all flights.

Rent one of our premium entertainment tablets.

On most flights over 3.5 hours, you can rent one of our inflight entertainment tablets featuring the newest movies onboard, plus recent hits. Each tablet is preloaded with 25 to 30 movies (depending on the month), plus TV shows, Xbox games and music.

Tablets are free in First Class, and available to rent for \$8-\$10, depending on flight length.



NEW MOVIES ON THE TABLET:



Avengers: Infinity War



Ready Player One



Rampage



Tully



Super Troopers 2

Alaska Airlines Mileage Plan™

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Earn miles on hotel stays, car rentals, and everyday purchases, too.

See the world and earn miles doing it.

Earn or redeem miles on every Alaska flight and flights to more than 900 destinations worldwide with our airline partners.





























MVP









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Partner miles flown also count toward elite status qualification.

MVP

(20,000 miles flown on Alaska)

- Priority check-in
- Two free checked bags
- Eligible for complimentary First Class upgrades
- 50% bonus miles and more

MVP GOLD

(40,000 miles flown on Alaska)

All MVP® benefits, plus:

- Waived ticket change fees on Alaska
- Four annual guest upgrades
- 100% bonus miles and more

GOLD 75K (75,000 miles flown on Alaska)

All MVP Gold benefits, plus:

- Complimentary inflight entertainment player
- Four Alaska[®] Lounge day passes
- 125% bonus miles and more

^{*}Miles flown on PenAir and Ravn do not count toward elite status qualification.







Carry the card for even more rewards.

Introductory offer: Buy 1 ticket, get 1 for just the taxes and fees with Alaska's Famous Companion FareTM offer.

- Up to 31,000 bonus miles after qualifying purchases.
- Free checked bag for you and up to six other passengers on the same reservation.

Cardholder perk: There's no limit to the number of miles you can earn.

Apply at AlaskaOffer.com or ask your flight attendant.

The benefits described herein are subject to certain restrictions, limitations and exclusions. For more information about rates, fees, other costs and benefits of this credit card, or to apply, visit AlaskaOffer.com and refer to disclosures accompanying the application. This credit card program is issued and administered by Bank of America, N.A. Visa and Visa Signature are registered trademarks of Visa International Service Association and are used by the issuer pursuant to license from Visa U.S.A., Inc. ©2018 Bank of America Corporation

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Book one-way award travel within the continental United States and Canada starting at just 5,000 miles.*

Starting price*	Distance each way	Sample routes
5,000 miles	Less than 700 miles (intrastate)	San Jose-Orange County
5,000 miles	Less than 700 miles	Seattle-San Francisco
7,500 miles	701 to 1,400 miles	Los Angeles-Portland
10,000 miles	1,401 to 2,100 miles	Portland-St. Louis
12,500 miles	More than 2,101 miles	New York-Seattle

^{*} Plus taxes and fees from \$5.60 each way. Award availability and pricing may vary.

Join today and start getting rewarded. alaskaair.com/mileageplan



Need a Place to Stay?

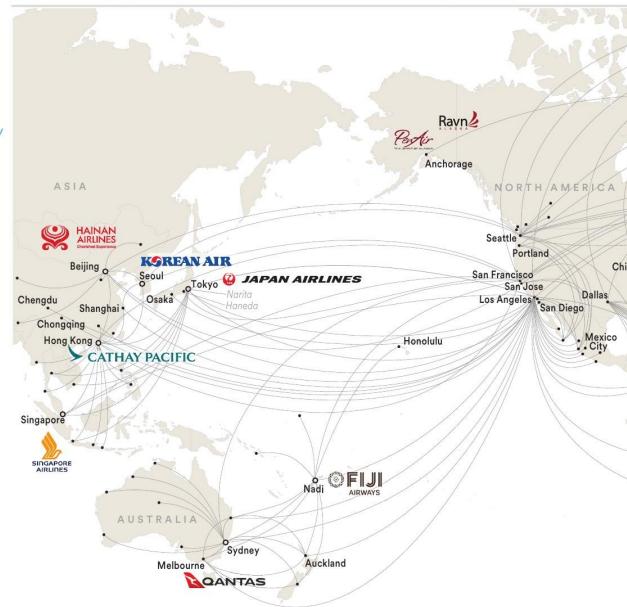
You can now use Mileage Plan miles to stay at more than 400,000 hotels worldwide with mileageplanhotels.com

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Mileage Plan gives you the world

Earn and redeem your Alaska Airlines miles to more than 900 destinations worldwide.

Find tips on how to earn and use miles on our global partners at blog.alaskaair.com/ mileage-plan.



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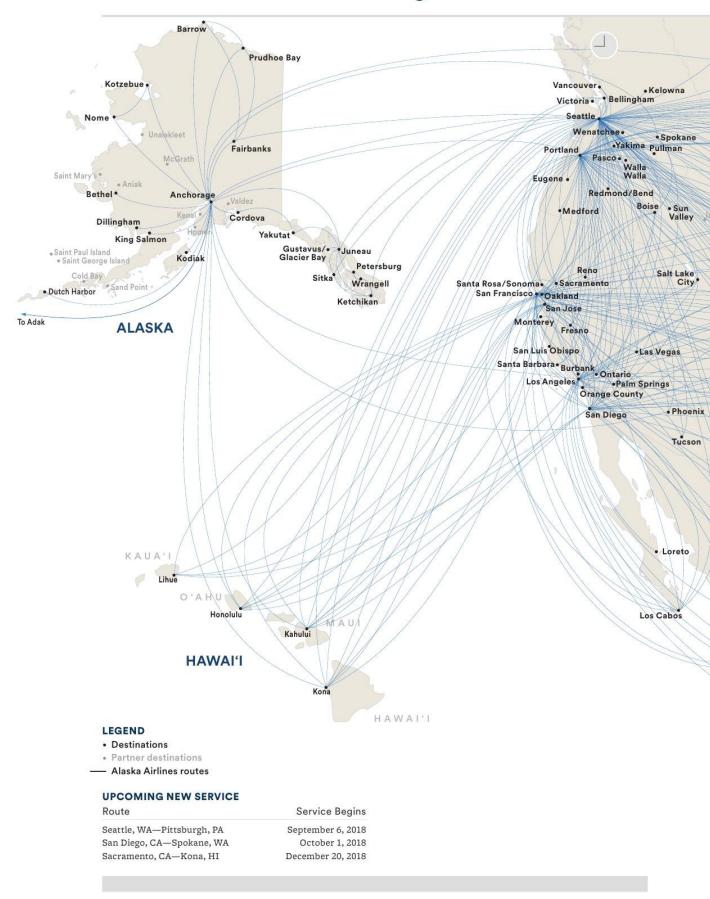


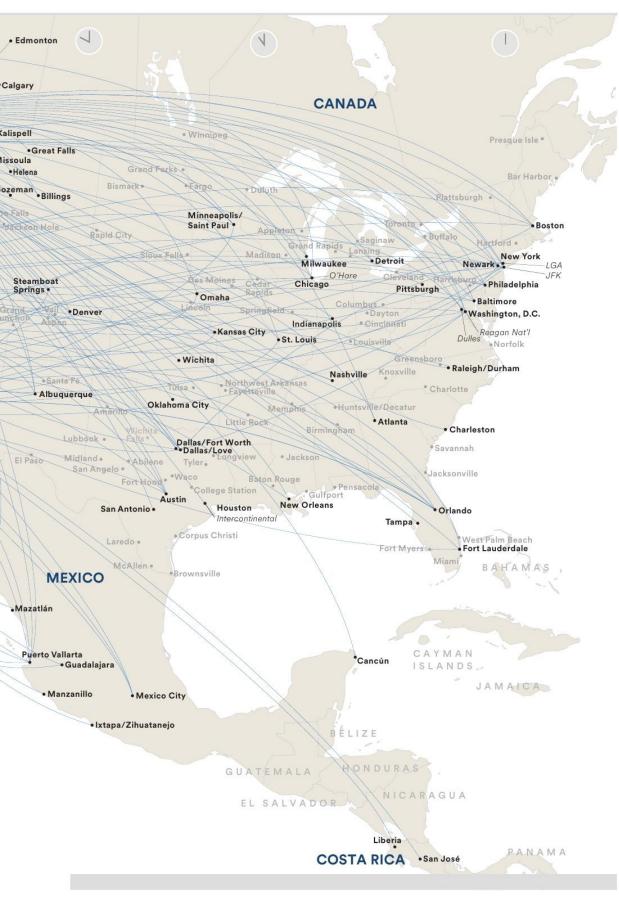


Frankfurt, Germany Condor

Where we fly

115+ destinations and counting.





Some Alaska Airlines service operated by Horizon Air or SkyWest Airlines.

Some routes shown operate seasonally.

Airport terminal maps

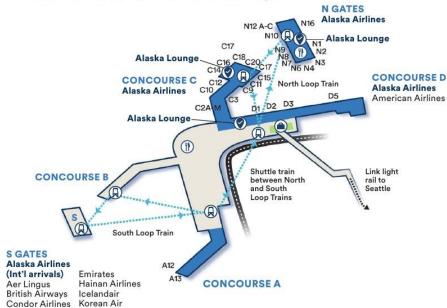
SEA Seattle/Tacoma International Airport

Tip:
Connecting to
an Alaska Global
Partner? You'll
need to take the
shuttle train to
the South Loop
Train to get to

the S gates.

1 Tip:

Our new
Alaska Lounge
opened in the
C Concourse:
Raise your
"preflight"
game. We have
complimentary
food, premium
drinks, Wi-Fi and
great views.



PDX Portland International Airport

CONCOURSE D Alaska Airlines (Int'l arrivals) Condor Airlines Icelandair C10 C8 **CONCOURSE C** C5 Alaska Airlines American Airlines Alaska Lounge **CONCOURSE A** CONCOURSE B Alaska Airlines Alaska Airlines A 2-5 PenAir MAX light rail to Portland

1 Tip:

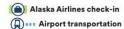
Heads up: We fly out of more than one terminal at SFO, please check your boarding pass to ensure you arrive at the correct gate.

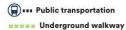
1 Tip:

Alaska Lounge members have access to the Cathay Pacific Lounge at SFO when traveling on Alaska.





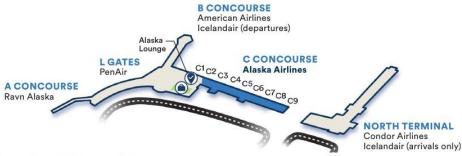




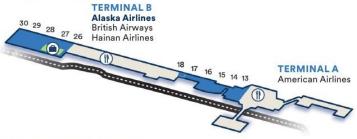
LAX Los Angeles International Airport



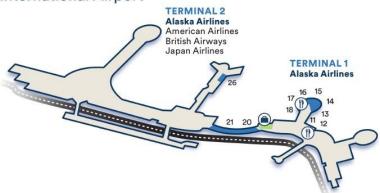
ANC Anchorage International Airport



SJC San Jose Mineta Airport



SAN San Diego International Airport



Customs and immigration

Please use all capital letters with blue or black ink.

Por favor use letra mayúscula en tinta azul o negra.

Global Entry is a
U.S. Customs &
Border Protection
program that
offers expedited
customs entry
with no processing
lines, no paperwork, TSA Preè
eligibility and
access to
expedited entry
in other countries.
Apply at www.
cbp.gov.



Customs and Immigration forms are distributed by flight attendants during your flight. Prior to landing, complete all forms that pertain to you, following the tips below. Completed forms are presented immediately upon entering the International Arrivals building. Las formas de Aduana y Migración son distribuidas por los sobrecargos durante el vuelo. Antes del aterrizaje en su destino final complete las formas correspondientes usando las indicaciones que se porporcionan a continuación. Las formas completas seran presentadas en la Terminal Internacional.

TO THE UNITED STATES

PASSPORT CONTROL KIOSKS

Automated Passport Control kiosks expedite the entry process. Eligible travelers scan their passport, take a photograph and answer a series of questions at the kiosk. Once complete, present the printed receipt from the kiosk to a Customs Officer.

Helpful tips

- Only citizens or nationals of the U.S., Canada or Visa Waiver Program countries are eligible to use the kiosk
- · Customs declaration forms are unnecessary.
- Kiosks available in Los Angeles (LAX), Portland (PDX), San Diego (SAN), San Francisco (SFO) and Seattle (SEA).

U.S. CUSTOMS DECLARATION

All travelers to cities without Passport Control kiosks must complete this form.

Helpful tips

- One form per person or one per family (family defines those in the same household who are related by blood, marriage, domestic relationship, or adoption).
- Lines 5, 6—If not using a passport, leave these lines blank.
- Line 9-Enter "AS" for Alaska Airlines
- Sign at the "X."

QUIOSCOS DE CONTROL DE PASAPORTES

Kioscos automatizados de control de pasaportes acelerar el proceso de entrada y se encuentran en muchas ciudades servidas por Alaska Airlines. los viajeros elegibles escanear el pasaporte, tomar una fotografía y contestar una serie de preguntas en el quiosco. Una vez completa, presentar el recibo impreso en el quiosco a un oficial de aduanas.

Datos de ayuda

- Sólo los ciudadanos o nacionales de los países del Programa de Exención de Estados Unidos, Canadá o Visa son elegibles para utilizar el quiosco.
- Formularios de declaración de aduanas son innecesarias.
- Kioscos disponibles en Los Ángeles (LAX),
 Portland (PDX), San Diego (SAN), San Francisco (SFO) y Seattle (SEA).

DECLARACION DE ADUANA

Los viajeros a ciudades sin quioscos de control de pasaportes deben completar este formulario.

Datos de ayuda

- Una forma por persona o por familia con la misma dirección.
- Línea 5, 6—Si no tiene pasaporte, deje esta sección en blanco.
- Línea 9—Use "AS" para Alaska Airlines.
- Firme en la "X."

INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL TIPS

TO MEXICO

- All travelers must complete a Mexico Customs Declaration form; one per traveler or family with same address.
- All travelers, except for citizens of Mexico, must complete the FMM; one per traveler or family.

TO COSTA RICA

- All travelers must complete a Customs Declaration form; one per traveler or family.
- All travelers must complete an Immigrations Form; one per person.
- Costa Rica requires a \$29 departure tax for each traveler. For tickets purchased before June 1, 2016, pay fee prior to check-in with Alaska Airlines at the service centers in terminal check-in area.
 The fee is included in the price of tickets purchased after June 1, 2016.

CONSEJOS DE VIAJE INTERNACIONALES

A MEXICO

- Todos los viajeros deben completar un formulario de declaración de aduanas México; uno por cada viajero o familia con la misma dirección.
- Todos los viajeros, excepto para los ciudadanos de México, deben completar la FMM; uno por cada viajero o familia.

A COSTA RICA

- Todos los viajeros deben completar un formulario de declaración de aduanas; uno por cada viajero o familia.
- Todos los viajeros deben completar un formulario de Inmigración; una por persona
- Costa Rica requiere un impuesto de salida de \$29 para cada viajero. Para los boletos comprados tarde del 1 junio, 2016, pagar la cuota antes de check-in con Alaska Airlines en los centros de servicio en el área de registro de entrada en el terminal. La tarifa está incluido en el precio de los boletos comprados el 1 de junio 2016.

Your safety and comfort

SEATS

- Seat belts must be fastened whenever the "FASTEN SEAT BELT" sign is on. Keep your seat belt fastened at all other times when seated, in case of rough air.
- Seatbacks and tray tables must be in the upright, locked position during taxi, takeoff and landing.
- Seat-belt extenders are not allowed in exit rows.
 They can tangle and obstruct access to exit doors.

CARRY-ONS

- All carry-on bags must be placed under a seat or in an overhead bin for takeoff and landing.
- Prior to takeoff and landing, service items provided by our inflight team must be picked up.

LAVATORY

• Guests are requested to use the lavatory in their assigned cabin.

PETS

Pets must remain in carrier for entire flight.
 Carrier must be stowed for taxi, takeoff and landing.

CREW AND GUEST SAFETY

- Under federal law, no person may assault, threaten, intimidate or interfere with crew members in the performance of their duties aboard an aircraft. Penalties for crew interference include fines up to \$11,000, imprisonment or both. An incident report may be filed with the FAA regarding a guest's behavior.
- We respect the privacy and well-being of our guests and employees. We do not tolerate inappropriate verbal, digital or physical conduct of any kind, including sexual harassment, invasive photography, and assault. Please report unwelcome behavior to an employee immediately. Any crime committed onboard is considered a federal offense.

TRAVELING WITH INFANTS AND CHILDREN

- To be used onboard, your child-restraint system must conform to all applicable federal motor vehicle-safety conditions, and the restraint must be certified for use in motor vehicles and aircraft with an FAA-approval sticker.
- Some restrictions for child-restraint systems apply based on seat locations and flight numbers.
 Visit http://bit.ly/InfantTravel for details.

ALCOHOL AND TOBACCO

- Alcohol may not be consumed aboard an aircraft unless it has been provided by a flight attendant.
 No alcohol may be served to any person who appears to be intoxicated, or who is under 21 years of age.
- Guests are expected to drink responsibly and behave in a safe and respectful manner at all times.
- Smoking, chewing tobacco and electronic cigarette use are not permitted on any Alaska Airlines flight.

DEVICES

- During taxi, takeoff and landing, larger electronic devices, such as laptops, must be stowed.
- Cellphones may be used while the boarding door is open until advised by your flight attendant that cell service must be turned off. Upon landing, your flight attendant will advise when cell service can be enabled.
- During flight, electronic voice communications of any kind (e.g., cell, FaceTime, Skype) are prohibited.
- Headphones must be worn when using electronic devices such as personal music players, Inflight Entertainment Tablets, handheld games, etc.

OTHER PROHIBITED ITEMS

 We prohibit the use of items that do not meet FAA Regulations or Company regulations. This includes the use of seat-belt extensions not provided by Alaska Airlines, devices that restrict the recline of seats, self-heating meals or beverages, air filters placed on overhead vents and personal air-purifying devices. The Federal
Aviation
Administration
(FAA) and
Alaska Airlines
have set these
rules and
regulations to
assure your safety
and comfort.

CONTACT US

Customer care: 800.654.5669 (Mileage Plan, Customer Care)

Toll-free reservations: Within the U.S. and Canada: 800.ALASKAAIR (800.252.7522) (TTY 800.682.2221) alaskaair.com

En Español: 800.858.5525 From Mexico: 001.800.252.7522

Alaska Airlines Vacations: 844.762.0087 vacations.alaskaair.com

USING YOUR DEVICES

We know use of your electronic devices is important, and we've adjusted our procedures to give you more time with those devices.

Allowed on the ground and in the air

- Laptops (must be stowed for taxi/ takeoff/landing)
- Tablets/smartphones (Airplane Mode after door closure)
- Wireless mouse/keyboard
- · e-readers
- Media/CD/DVD players
- · Noise-canceling and Bluetooth headphones
- · Cellphones (prior to door closure only)

Not allowed during flight

- · Voice calls of any kind, including VoIP
- · Devices with cell service enabled
- AM/FM radios or TVs
- Personal air purifiers
- Remote-control toys
- Electronic cigarettes

COLORFUL CINEMA

27

60

65

95

122

127

83

107 108

)) GAMES **CROSSWORD**

44 45

112

22

26

64

88

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- 132 Fabric pigments
- 134 Unites

DOWN

- Factories
- 4 Babe magnet?
- 5 Jaunty

- 7 Tub
- 8
- Dark
- 11 Nickels and dimes
- 12 Haphazard
- ____out a living
- 14 15 Synagogue

- 16 Richard Conte (1953)
- 130 Nice girl
- 131 Rams fans?
- 133 Animal tracks

- 1 Get around
- 2 Shoestrings

- 6 Etc., in Berlin
- Watery fluids
- 10 From 7
- 13 Piece of work

- 25 Marsh bird
- 30

- 38 Compost item

- 42 Visualize
- Highway monster

- 47 James and Tommie

- 54 Tibetan gazelle
- 57 Doodled

59

125

129

62

17 Old Italian bread

92

116

97

109

123

28

32

66

90

96

61

- 24 Make small talk
- Removed
- 33 Irish county
- 35 Pier pest

- 40 Peal
- 41 Ice-cream nut

- 48 The Beatles (1968)
- 55 Author Paton

- 18 Lulu

- 39 Colorado brave

- 44
- 45 Noodle
- 46 ____nova
- 49 Element 34
- 56 Gallivant

Regal

93

25

- 63 Urban rollers
- Bottom line
- Louisville slugger 68
- 70 Rhine whine
- Brag
- Bible book 72
- 73 Actor Morales
- Gratings Senator Kefauver 77
- Cronus, e.g. 80
- 81 Crone
- Doesn't zig 82
- Asia's __ Mountains
- 85 Plexus 86 Unguent
- Available, as ale 87
- 90 Minister to 91 Follower's suffix
- 93 Appropriate 97 Magazine fillers
- 102 Delight 103 Spears

134 104 Berserk

130

- 105 Isn't deadpan
- 106 Long legend 108 Bests
- 111 Manner
- **112** Get ____ of
- 113 Gertrude and Hamlet 114 Call at home
- 115 Figurehead's spot 117 Shower bar
- 118 Jason's vessel
- 119 Northern capital
- 121 Once again
- 123 Resting place 124 Deposit 125 Bucks
- 126 Byron's eternity SOLUTION ON PAGE 190.

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LADDERGRAM

First, write the word that fits the first definition into space 1. Then drop one letter and rearrange the remaining letters to form the answer to definition 2. Drop one more letter, rearrange and get the answer to definition 3. Put the first dropped letter into the box to the left of space 1 and the other dropped letter into the box next to space 3. When you have correctly solved the puzzle, the dropped letters on the left and right, when read down, will spell out related words.

1.	2.	3.	
4.	5.	6.	35
7.	8.	9.	***
10.	11.	12.	-12
13.	14.	15.	
16.	17.	18.	
19.	20.	21.	

DEFINITIONS

1. Signs of royalty

2. Pledged (an oath)

3. Skiing surface

4. Track down

5. Soccer-shoe spike

6. Bath-powder ingredient

7. More thickset

8. Playful aquatic mammals

9. Mall unit

10. Audacity

11. Swerve

12. Preholiday night

13. Stories

14. Bargain event

15. Scale syllables

16. Gaze rudely

17. Herbal brews

18. Complete collection

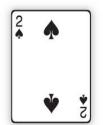
19. Mean-spirited

20. Aardvark's diet

21. - Francisco

CARD SENSE

Five playing cards were shuffled and put in a pile, one on top of another. Using the clues, can you identify each card's position in the pile?











- 1. The king is above the diamond.
- 2. The face cards are not adjacent.
- 3. The two is below the jack.
- 4. The red cards are not adjacent. 5. The club is not on top.

ANAGRAM MAZE

The diagram contains 36 words, 21 of which are anagrams of other everyday words. Start at the top arrow and anagram STAR. While solving, move up, down, right or left to the only adjacent word that can be an grammed. Continue until you arrive at the bottom arrow. There is only one path through the maze.

1	2	3	4	5	6
STAR	WISH	LAST	OWLS	DIRE	PALM
7	8	9	10	11	12
DARE	CLAM	EARL	BALL	PACK	DIVE
13	14 zoos	15	16	17	18
CLAP		MARK	FLUE	BANE	RIFE
19	20	21	22	23	24
DISC	RAGE	TONE	ICON	WEND	CULT
25	26	27	28	29	30
LARD	LAIN	PENT	PUPS	MINT	MILL
31	32	33	34	35	36
CUTE	ARCS	TOGA	NEST	CONE	TURN

SOLUTIONS ON PAGE 191.

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DIFFICULTY: MEDIUM

Complete each sudoku grid by placing a number in each box so that each row, column and small nine-box square contains the numbers one to nine exactly once. Solutions on page 190.

DIFFICULTY: EASY

6							7	2
			9	5		8		
1	8	3			4		9	
		4	7		5	2	1	
	6			2			8	
	1	7	3		9	5		
	9		5			3	6	7
		1		4	3			
3	2							4

	we							
	5		9		8		4	
9	2				7		1	
7					2	9		
		3		7				1
5				1				6
5 6				8		3		
		5	7					8
	9		3				2	7
	6		8		1		9	

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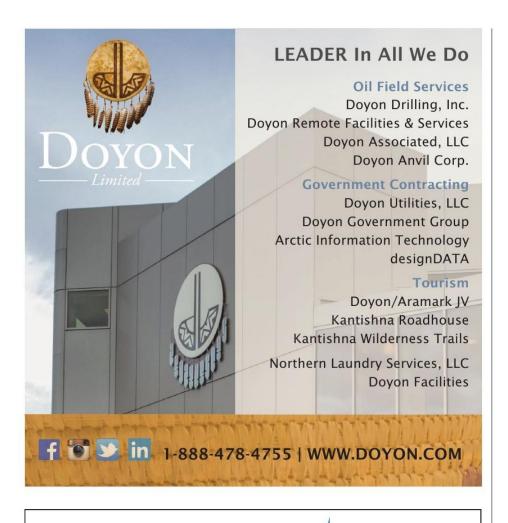


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CROSSWORD ON PAGE 184.



SUDOKU ON PAGE 189.

					DIF	FICUL	TY: E	ASY
6	5	9	1	3	8	4	7	2
7	4	2	9	5	6	8	3	1
1	8	3	2	7	4	6	9	5
8	3	4	7	6	5	2	1	9
9	6	5	4	2	1	7	8	3
2	1	7	3	8	9	5	4	6
4	9	8	5	1	2	3	6	7
5	7	1	6	4	3	9	2	8
3	2	6	8	9	7	1	5	4

				D	IFFIC	ULTY	: ME	DIU
1	5	6	9	3	8	7	4	2
9	2	4	5	6	7	8	1	3
7	3	8	1	4	2	9	6	5
4	8	3	6	7	9	2	5	1
5	7	9	2	1	3	4	8	6
6	1	2	4	8	5	3	7	9
2	4	5	7	9	6	1	3	8
8	9	1	3	5	4	6	2	7
3	6	7	8	2	1	5	9	4



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BRAIN BOOSTER PUZZLES ON PAGE 186.

LADDERGRAM

С	1. CROWNS	2. SWORN	3. SNOW	R
0	4. LOCATE	5. CLEAT	6. TALC	Е
U	7. STOUTER	8. OTTERS	9. STORE	Т
N	10. NERVE	11. VEER	12. EVE	R
Т	13. TALES	14. SALE	15. LAS	Е
R	16. STARE	17. TEAS	18. SET	Α
Υ	19. NASTY	20. ANTS	21. SAN	Т

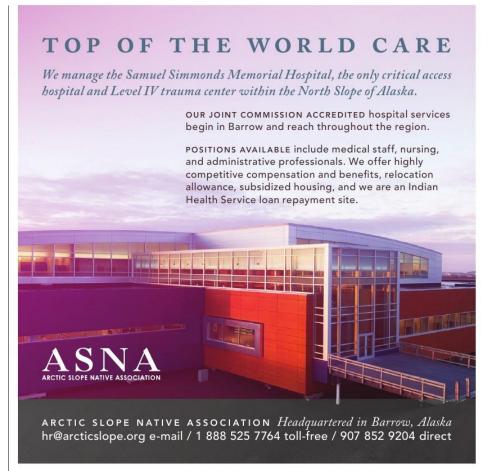
CARD SENSE

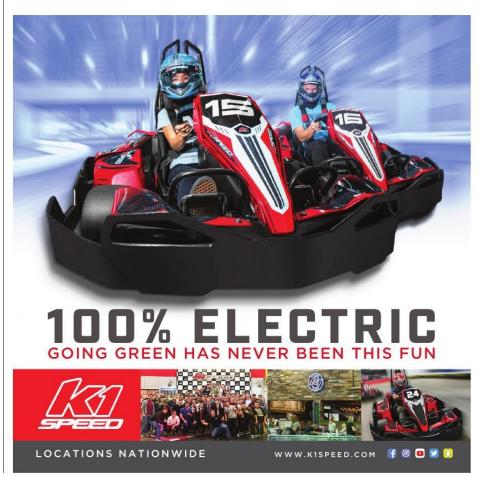
The king of clubs is not on top (clue 5). Since the king of clubs is above the jack of diamonds (clue 1) and the jack of diamonds is above the two of spades (clue 3), the king of clubs is second or third from the top. By clue 2, the king of clubs is second from the top, the jack of diamonds is fourth and the two of spades is on the bottom. The ten of hearts is not third (clue 4); it is on top and the eight of spades is third. In summary, from top to bottom: ten of hearts, king of clubs, eight of spades, jack of diamonds, two of spades.

ANAGRAM MAZE

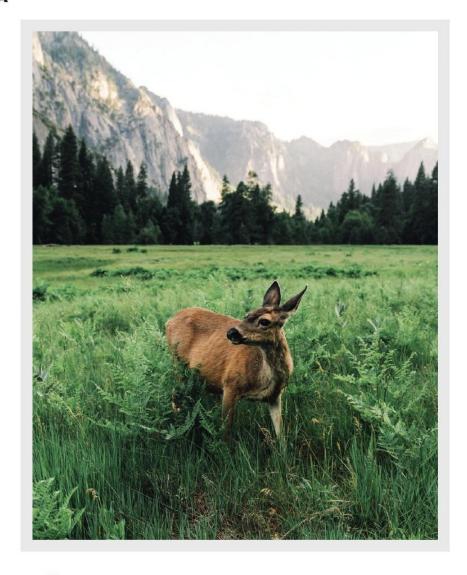
The path through the maze, with only one anagram given for each, is 1. rats; 7. read; 8. calm; 9. real; 3. salt; 4. slow; 5. ride; 6. lamp; 12. vied; 18. fire; 17. bean; 16. fuel; 22. coin; 21. note; 20. gear; 26. nail; 32. cars; 33. goat; 34. sent; 35. once; 36. runt.

1		3	4	5	6
7	8	9			12
			16	17	18
	20	21	22		
	26				
	32	33	34	35	36





#IFLYALASKA



**On our last night in Yosemite National Park, we saw some deer running through fields in a valley. For some reason, one stayed behind and stared at us curiously. Some of the best things in life are totally unplanned and unexpected," says Andrew Ling (@andrewling), who was traveling with friends.

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